$10

The tv-ts

Tapestry

the magazine for persons interested in transvestism & transsexualism

TWO APPROACHES TO DRAG

Queens: Transvestites

The need for acceptance as a woman

Updated Directory of TV-TS Organizations

Comming Events:
Personal Listings:
News/Bullentins:

Cross dressing: useful and Theraputic

THE MORNING AFTER

Fiction by Merissa Sherrill Lynn

ACTING LIKE A LADY

Drag in the Theater from the Actors point of view

Female to male transsexualism

Comparison reviews by a medical psycholigist and a female to male transsexual

"How to be read" properly, & Flight 253 to Denver

The need to Network

Guest Editoral by Rupert Raj

MRS. SHUFFELWICK

A Personal Profile

SEX CHANGER

The Story of Dr. Biber

Definitions follow up

Issue 44

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SPECIAL THANKS - PUBLICATIONS: Gay Community News, The Glad Rag, Metamorphosis Newsletter, SIECUS Newsletter, Playbill Magazine, The Gender Center Newsletter

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POLICIES:

1.) The TV-TS Tapestry will support any individual, organization, or commercial enterprise that provides a valid service to the CD/TS/AN Community, and is not unethical, illegal or dangerous.

2.) Although sexually oriented organizations and services do provide a service and will be supported, it is understood that the Tapestry is intended to be neutral and acceptable to all. Therefore no sexually oriented ads, photos, or articles will be accepted for publication in the Tapestry.

3.) Single copies of the Tapestry will be provided free of charge to any non-profit organization or information distribution center. In exchange the Tapestry expects to receive any available newsletters, and permission to reprint any articles and information that is of interest and relevant to all. (The Tapestry will print only that information which will not endanger the security of the organization or its members, and will reflect favorably upon the organization.)

4.) The Tapestry will accept advertising and distribute information for non-profit organizations free of charge.

5.) The Tapestry will accept advertising from all legitimate commercial enterprises. Also, discounts are offered to the subscribers of commercial publications, and advertising accepted and information distributed free of charge on a reciprocal basis.

6.) Individual copies of the TV/TS Tapestry are $10.00

7.) The subscription rate for the Tapestry is $30.00 for one year. ($10.00 of each subscription will be rebated to the non-profit organization of the subscriber's choice.)

8.) In addition to receiving all publications, Subscribers are entitled to a free personal listing for one year, free mail forwarding, and discounts for all Tiffany Club sponsored events.

9.) There is an additional $5.00 fee for those who live outside of the U.S., and those wishing their mail to be sent 'First Class'.

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TV-TS TAPESTRY STATEMENT

We ('we' meaning the Tapestry, other TV-TS publications, and TV-TS organizations both non-profit and commercial) are in business to serve our people. 'Our people' include members of the TV-TS Community ('our' Community) and their families and friends. They include the commercial and professional people who serve our Community and those persons who by way of circumstance are affected by our Community. No one person, no one magazine or organization or commercial or professional project can, or should try to do the job alone.

The 'over-all scheme of things' refers to every aspect of the TV-TS Community, family, friends, helping professionals, etc. (the 'paraculture'). Every TV/TS organization (Tiffany Club, GGA, Tri-Ess, etc.), every TV/TS project (the Tapestry, NACD Inc., Fantasia Fair, etc.), and every non-profit and commercial and professional service serving the TV Community (Outreach Institute, FACT, Confide, etc.) has an important niche in the over-all scheme of things.

What is most important is that every individual person in a responsible leadership position first acknowledge that in order for each of us to better serve our respective constituencies, we must all work together. Second, we must recognize our respective organizations' and projects' niche in the over-all scheme of things.

The Tapestry's niche is to to help the various leaders and organizations do a better job serving their respective constituencies. It exists to provide accurate and up-to-date information, education, communications, entertainment, and social opportunities to anyone who wants and needs it. The Tapestry exists to help people.

In order for the Tapestry to be the most effective publication possible we must have accurate and up-to-date information, and interesting, educational, and entertaining material. Although much of our magazine's information and material come from individual contributors, the primary source is the publications of other organizations. These individuals are not only an asset to the Tapestry, they are an asset to their respective organizations, and to all.

INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION CENTERS

The organizations and individuals serving as information distribution centers are responsible for being familiar with the various services and organizations available in their given area. This information is to be distributed in accordance with the needs of the inquirer and not the private orientation of the organization or individual. (**** Please note that not all organizations listed in the Service or Social listings are willing or able to serve as general information distribution centers.)

NORTHEAST

TIFFANY CLUB Information distribution throughout the New England area. Tiffany Club, Box 19, Wayland MA 01778 617-358-5575

THE OUTREACH INSTITUTE Information distribution throughout New England. The Outreach Institute, Kenmore Sta. Box 368, Boston MA 02215 617-277-3454

THE XX (TWENTY) CLUB Information distribution for New England, specializing in transsexualism. The XX Club, Box 6070 Station 'A', Hartford CT 06106

THE BETTER LIVING INSTITUTE Information distribution for the New York City Area. B.L.I., c/o Joyce Dewhurst, 37-50 76 St, Jackson Heights, NY 11372

MS CHERYL A. MCBRIDE Information distribution for upper New York. Ms Cheryl McBride, Box 6047, Albany NY 12206

MS ALICE MILLARD Information distribution for upper New York (Summers only, May thru Oct.) Ms Alice Millard, Box 264, Cooperstown, NY 13326

L. FRANK Information distribution for Greater New York Metropolitan area. L. Frank, Box 9192, Morristown, NJ 07960 (201) 663-0772

MID-ATLANTIC, SOUTH

PHI CHAPTER Information distribution for Mid-Atlantic area (New Jersy to North Carolina). c/o L. Walker, Box 7330, Newark, DE 19711

MS ALICE MILLARD Information distribution for South East (especially Gulf Coast area Florida to Louisiana) (Winters only, November thru April) Ms Alice Millard,, Box 2355, Pensacola, FL 32513

MID-WEST, SOUTH CENTRAL

PARADISE CLUB Information distribution for Upper Mid-West (Western New York to Illinois) Paradise Club, Box 17032, Cleveland, OH 44117

CROSSROADS CHAPTER Information distribution Michigan/Ohio area. Crossroads Chapter, Box 1298, Flint MI 48501

MS SHARON RENEE HART Information distribution for Chicago area. Sharon Renee Hart, Box 2312, Chicago IL 60690 312-472-4518

MS MALINDA ANDERSON Information distribution for Wisconsin/Minnisota area. c/o R. Peterson, Box 524, Lake Mills WI 53551

MS MAXINE MCDONALD Information distribution for Dallas/Fort Worth area. Maxine McDonald, Box 31171, Dallas TX 75231

SOUTHWEST, NORTHWEST

RENAISSANCE GENDER IDENTITY SERVICES Information distribution for Southern California area. Renaissance, Box 11341, Santa Ana, CA 92711 714-836-1803

GATEWAY GENDER ALLIANCE Information distribution for Northern California area. GGA, Box 62283, Sunnyvale CA 94088 408-678-0609

NORTHWEST CHAPTER Information distribution for Oregon/Washington area. Northwest Chapter, Box 13173, Portland OR 97213

CANADA

FOUNDATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF CANADIAN TRANSSEXUALS (FACT) Information distribution throughout Canada. FACT, Box 291 Sta. 'A', Hamilton Ontario Canada L8N-3C8 416-529-7884

FORIEGN

THE SEAHORSE CLUB OF AUSTRALIA Information distribution for Australia. The Seahorse Club of Australia, Box R341, Royal Exchange, Sydney 2000, Australia

TRANS-CCL Information distribution throughout Europe. Rev. Joseph Douce, Centre du christ Liberateur, Minoites Sexuelles, TRANS-CCL, 3 bis, rue Clairaut, 75017 Paris, France (1) 627-4936

ORGANIZATIONS

SERVICE

NORTHEAST

THE HUMAN OUTREACH AND ACHIEVEMENT INSTITUTE Box 368 Kenmore Station, Boston MA 02215

Nature: The Outreach Institute is a non-profit corporation whose purposes and objectives are educational. Outreach works predominantly with Helping Professionals from the fields of Education, Guidance & Counseling, Therapy, Medicine, Law & Law Enforcement, Nursing and Human Services.

Services: Outreach's programs include OPERN (Outreach Professional Evaluation and Referral Network). seminars & workshops, a newsletter, Fantasia Fair (a living/learning growth experience for crossdressers, transsexuals and androgynes both male and female), and a book and publication service. (Outreach's catalog of books and reprints is available for $3.00).

Security: Outreach's programs are strictly nonsexual and sophisticated. All participants at any Outreach program are expected to act accordingly.

GENDER IDENTITY SERVICES 136 Causeway St., Hudson MA 01749 (617)568-0680

Nature: 'Gender Identity Services' is a gender identity clinic serving the crossdressing/transsexual/androgyne population of New England and the Northeast.

Services: The Clinic offers evaluation, group and individual counseling and therapy, and therapy for family and friends. The Clinic uses a new course of therapy - ONTOSYNTHESIS - through which all client-/patients can determine beyond all doubt the truth about their gender and sexuality ;and come to a deep and lasting inner peace with their masculine and feminine principles and their ways of being.

Security: Total discretion, anonymity and protection prevails in all circumstances.

GENDER IDENTITY CLINIC OF NEW ENGLAND 45 Church Street, Hartford, CT 06103

SEX INFORMATION AND EDUCATION COUNCIL OF THE U.S. (SIECUS) SIECUS, 80 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10011

SIECUS is affiliated with the Department of Health Education of the School of Education, Health, Nursing, and Arts Professions of New York University. SIECUS deals with all sexually related issues, including gender expression.

CONFIDE - PERSONAL COUNSELING SERVICES INC. Box 56,Tappan NY 10983, 914-359-8860 or 914-997-1013, offices in Tappan NY and Hartsdale NY

Nature: Confide runs a therapy group in Tappan, comprising transsexuals, transvestites and persons who are trying to find themselves on the gender spectrum.

Services: Confide is a private service offeriang counseling, therapy, hypnosis and hypnotherapy, with a large proportion of our practice dealing with gender proablems. Private therapy sessions are held witha Garrett Oppenheim PhD FIC, thedirector, while Fae Robin, the co-director, offers coaching in grooming, manners, poise, makeup, shopping, etc. Dr. Oppenheim evaluates candidates for hormone therapy and sex reassignment surgery and makes referrals at the appropriate time.

Security: Membership in the group is contingent on a 1 1/2 hour screening session with Dr. Oppenheim.

SOUTH

GALVESTON PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES 2126 1/2 The strand, Galveston, TX 77550 (713) 763-4522 Dr. Collier M. Cole

Services: Full range of psychotheraputic and medical services are provide, including hormone therapy and surgery. Counseling and/or referrals around legal issues, speech therapy and cosmetic concerns is also available.

MID-WEST, INTER-MOUNTAIN

GENDER IDENTITY COMMITTEE University of Minnesota Medical Center, Department of Psychiatry, 412 Union Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455 Sharon Satterfield, M.D.

Services: Details not available at this time.

GENDER IDENTITY CENTER OF COLORADO, INC. 3715 32nd Ave, Denver, CO. 80211 (303) 458-5378

Nature: G.I.C. is a non-profit, tax exempt, educational and affiliative organization designed to

provide a public service to the community.

Services: G.I.C. provides information and education on the iasuea of cross-dressing and gender conflict through a library of books and journal articles, rap sessions, workshops and seminara, and guest speakers from various areas of the community including medical, legal, insurance, personal grooming, male and female appearance and behaviors, etc. G.I.C. also provides a Speaker's Bureau, and a 24 hour Hot-Line.

COMMIT P.O. Box 61316, Denver, CO. 80206 (303) 297-9585

Nature: Commit is a comunity-based, service-focused organization made up exclusively of trana-gendered persons.

Services: Commit provides current literature concerning dender dysphoria, transsexualiam, transvestism, etc. Commit also provides a sanctuary where one may explore his/her transgenderism without fear, non-professional and peer counseling, and information on medical, physchological and other professional services. Commit also provides a 24 hour hot-line.

GENDER IDENTITY COMMITTEE Department of Psychiatry, University of Utah, College of Medicine, 50 North Medical Dr., Salt Lake City, UT 84132 (801) 581-7951 Dr. Nyla J. Cole, MD

Services: Detaila not available at this time.

SOUTH-WEST, WEST

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION TRANSSEXUAL RIGHTS COMMITTEE (ACLU-TRC) ACLU-TRC, 31815 Camino Capistrano, Suite L, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675 (714)661-7332

Nature: Founded in May, 1980. Actively working to firmly establish your civil and human rights as a citizen.

RENAISSANCE GENDER IDENTITY SERVICES Box 11341, Santa Ana CA 92711 714-836-1803

Nsture: Renaissance is a referral, information, educational and support service for crossdressers, transsexual persona, and other lifestyle groups.

Services: 'Renaissance Update' (a quarterly newsletter), research library, educational services, lecture bureau, professional and peer counseling services, and a hotline and referral service with local and nationwide referrals.

Security: Membership is open to all sincere, interested persons.

ERICKSON EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION P.O. Box 532, Ojai, CA 93023

EEF is primarily an information resource, and publishes the 'EEF Newsletter'. Additional information is not available at this time.

JANUS INFORMATION FACILITY 1952 Union St., San Francisco, CA 94088

JANUS provides a general basic information package in printed form for the transsexual. A $25.00 donation is requested.

TS COUNSELING, 1550 California St., Suite 6201, San Francisco, CA 94109 (415) 387-6767 Alise Martinez, R.N., B.A. Director

Nature: TS Counseling is an organization operated by post-op transsexuals, who, as members of the health care profession offer peer counseling to end-stage, pre-op transsexuals - i.e., those persons approaching conversion surgery - and post-op transsexuals who may be having difficulty adjusting to their post-op situation.

Services: Peer counseling for TSs. Educational services to the public in general. Research into the field of transsexualiam. Referrals to medical and psychiatric personnel.

HARRY BENJAMIN INTERNATIONAL GENDER DYSPHORIA ASSOCIATION (HBIGDA), 900 Welch Road #402, Stanford, CA 94304

THE PACIFIC CENTER FOR HUMAN GROWTH, P.O. Box 908, Berkeley, CA 94701 (415) 548-8283 Allanya Guenther, Executive Director

Nature: The Pacific Center is a private, non-profit agency funded by United Way, county revenue sharing funds, aliding scale fees, and contributions. The Center is dedicated to providing high-quality services to sexual minority people of all racea, ages, and backgrounds.

Servicea: Educational services and outreach into the community at large. Speaker's Bureau. Counseling. Group meetinga. Hot line (415) 841-6224.

NORTH AMERICAN TRANSVESTITE-TRANSSEXUAL TELEPHONE CONTACT SERVICE 1017 B. Eaat Pike St., Seattle, WA 98122 (206)624-8266 Executive Director Philip Salem

Nature: Then NA TV-TS Contact Service's primary function is to act as the world's only direct dating service for TVa, TSs and admirers. The Service has over 6200 contacta nationwide.

Services: The Contact Service provides a 24 hour hotline for TVs, TSa and admireres throughout the country. It also provides information gratia on plastic aurgery, electrolysis, and hormone therapy.

SEATTLE COUNSELLING SERVICE FOR SEXUAL MINORITIES 1505 Broadway, Seattle, WA 98122 (206) 329-8707

Services: Counaeling service, apecial group for TVs and TSs.

SEXUAL IDENTITY CENTER 2139 Kuhio Ave, Honolulu, HI 96813 (808) 926-1000

Services: Therapists, referrals, special support group for TVs and TSs.

CANADA

QUEBEC TRANSSEXUALS AID, INC. (A.T.Q. INC.): Viviane Audrey, Box 385, Mont-Royal, Quebec, Canada H3P-3E6

Nature: French speaking transsexual aupport.

Services: Meetinga, medical referrals, etc.

METAMORPHOSIS MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION Box 5963, Station 'A', Toronto, Ontario Canada M5W-1P4

Nature: Metamorphosis serves the Female to Male transsexual (gender dysphoric male).

Services: To provide research and information relevant to the 1F-M TS, to raise funds for research, to counsel the F-M TS, to educate the professional, para-professional and lay public on gender and sexual dysphoria, to provide peer support, and work cooperatively with other clinics and support groups.

FEDERATION OF AMERICAN AND CANADIAN TRANSSEXUALS (FACT) Box 291, Station 'A', Hamilton Ontario Canada L8N-3C8 416-529-7884

Nature: FACT is a non-profit support organization for transsexuals, relatives and friends of transsexuals, professionals and para-professionals working in th field of gender dysphoria and others prepared to support the aims of the Foundation.

Services: Information distribution concerning transsexualism. Publishes 'Gender Review', a periodical news sheet. Offers peer support and peer counselling. Organizes support groups across Canada wherever these are feasible and has area representataives wherever possible. Provides speakers on transsexualism to the mass media and others. FACT Toronto meets each month on the evening of the second Friday at 519 Church St. Community Centre. Visitors welcome. Enquire to head office for other meetings.

Chapters include:

South Centrsl Ontsrio, c/o Miss Robin Marie Schwartzentruber, P.O. Box 1842, Station 'C', Kitchener, Ontario, N3G-4R3 576-5248

Eastern Ontario, c/o Miss Nicole Boivin, P.O. Box 523, Gatineau, Quebec, J8P-7A1

Niagra, c/o Miss Susan Huxford, P.O. Box 291 Station 'A', Hamilton, Ontario, L8N-3C8 529-7884

Security: No screening for members or subscribers to 'Gender Review'. Meetings of FACT Toronto meets each month on the evening of the second Friday at the '519 Community Centre'. Local groups establish their own security procedures, e.g. FACT Niagra meetings are by invitation only.

GENDERSERVE box 291, Station 'A', Hamilton Ontario Canada L8N-3C8 416-529-7884

Nature: Counselling education and research services, registered in Ontario as a proprietorship and operating as a non-profit organization serving TSs TVs and gender dysphoric people in general, homosexuals,

wives, friends and relatives. Services for a nominal fee (to cover expenses). Enquiries by mail or phone. No collect calls. The proprietor has screened a number of professional organizations in the USA.

Services: Counselling in sexual matters for individuals and couples. Pastoral counselling is requested. Referrals. Initial counselling session (mail or telephone) free of charge. Lectures, radio/TV and other mass media interviews by arrangement. Group counselling and therapy by request. Publishes booklets and papers of a professional counselling nature (reviewed in SIECUS Report). Public education by articles, etc. for press release. Role-playing and simulation exercises.

Security: At present screening is required for initial personal counselling, as this is done at home and not in an office. An introduction from a known trustworthy source is required or a personal encounter in a public place (usually a public library). GENDERSERVE is selective in the publications with which it relates.

FOREIGN

TRANS-CCL Rev. Joseph Douce, Centre du Christ Liberateur, Minorites Sexuelles, TRAS-CCL, 3 Bis, rue Clairaut, 75017 Paris - France Tel.(1) 226.70.48 (Rev. Douce speaks English)

Nature: TRANS-CCL is a non-profit social organization for sexual minorities, non-political, with Christian foundation, but also open to people with other convictions. We have a large section for transsexuals and transvestite, probably the largest one in Europe (about 500 contacts). We can provide legal, medical, psychological, pastoral and surgical helf for transsexuals. We organize meetings, meals, etc... We have a large documentation on transsexuality. We can also provide all information available in Europe.

Services: A telephone help-line Mondays from 8p.m. to 10p.m. at (1) 627-4936. Meetings. Meals. Legal, medical, psychological and pastoral literature, and advisors.

SOCIAL

NEW ENGLAND

TIFFANY CLUB Box 19, Wayland MA 01778 617-358-5575

Nature: The Tiffany Club is a non-profit non-sexual social/educational organization for persons interested in crossdressing, for transsexual persons, and for relatives and friends. Tiffany has an international membership in excess of 600, welcomes all mature and responsible persons, and emphasizes friendship, support, good manners, common sense, and the security and peace-of-mind of all. Tiffany also works cooperatively with and in support of all non-profit organizations and services working on behalf of the TV/TS Community.

Services: The Tiffany Club publishes the TV/TS Tapestry. Tiffany also maintains a private facility near Boston (providing privacy, storage, a library, overnight accomodations, a hostelry for qualified travelers, and residence for persons in transition), and a balanced program of social and educational activities. Tiffany also maintains a support group for transsexuals, a support group for wives, and provides a hotline for information distribution, and referrals.

Security: If a person wishes to use Tiffany's facilities or attend a Tiffany function, that person must have met with and been cleared by a member of Tiffany's Screening Committee, or have a letter of introduction from a qualified person to ensure that the attendee understands Tiffany's objectives and will comply with Tiffany's security requirements and code of conduct.

HALCYON SOCIETY OF RHODE ISLAND Box 143, North Kingston, RI 02852

Nature: Halcyon is a friendship and support group for persons from the Rhode Island area interested in 'tasteful' crossdressing. Although affiliated with Tiffany Club, we are basically a 'neighborhood' group and work accordingly.

Services: Halcyon provides informal get-togethers twice a month allowing people a chance to meet with friends who understand the needs of people inclined to crossdress. Periodic newsletter, membership rumpus room and whatever activities planned by the membership at large.

Security: Only written inquiries are accepted. Once received and evaluated a standard information package is sent out along with an arranged meeting with someone already in membership. If the person making the inquiry appears to fit our standards, he/she is invited to attend a Society function. If the person's actions and deeds are consistent, the person is invited by the entire membership to join our ranks. Common sense prevails.

MAYFLOWER SOCIETY Box 66, Allston MA 02134

Nature: Mayflower is a membership organization open to TVs, friends and relatives. The approximately 20 members consist of some who are heterosexual, bisexual, some submissive, B&D, etc. Care is taken that broader interests are not imposed on those who do not wish to participate. Supportive environment emphasizing respect for the individual and security for all.

Services: Mayflower maintains an apartment with a library, private mail boxes, storage, casual get-togethers once a week, and parties once a month.

Security: A candidate for membership must meet with Kay Campbell or Neil Moses prior to joining. Write: Neil Moses, Secretary Mayflower Society, Box 66, Allston MA 02134

THE XX (TWENTY) CLUB Box 6070 Station 'A', Hartford CT 06106 (information: George W. Henry Foundation 203-522-2646)

Nature: The XX Club is a non-profit, non-sexual, social-educational-medical-outreach organization for persons interested in transsexualism. Friends and relatives are also welcomed, as are all those interested or involved with the crossdressing community.

Services: The XX Club has a monthly newsletter, and holds 2 meetings each month (the 2nd and 4th Saturday). The meetings include educational and medical programs, outreach work and information distribution. We also have social get-togethers, club parties, etc.

Security: We place no security precautions on people who wish to subscribe to our newsletter. However, if an individual wishes to attend our meetings, that person must meet and be cleared by a member of our screening committee, or have a letter of introduction from a qualified person to ensure that the attendee understands the XX Club's objectives and goals and that the individual will comply with security requirements and code of conduct. We request that all who attend our functions or meetings respect our anonymity.

HARRIET LANE'S TV SET Harriet Lane, Box 4002 Yalesville Sta., Wallingford CT 06492 203-288-1166

Nature: Harriet Lane's is a social membership and guest club for all persons interested in crossdressing. TSs, relatives and friends welcome. The TV Set has 65+ active members with over 400 guests per year.

Services: Private home on dead end street, parties twice a month on 2nd & 4th Sat. - buffet - open bar or BYOB w/setups. Members may store clothes, and visit during the week. A newsletter every three months containing club dates, past parties & referrals of other clubs and coming attractions plus places to purchase femme wear. Overnight accomodations for qualified TVs, TSs and friends. Live-in cosmetologists.

Security: Security precautions are very mild to the point of a phone call to Harriet Lane for screening. No drugs or excessive alcohol will be tolerated - all participants at both parties will conduct themselves as ladies & gentlepersons. Treat all ladies & TV ladies as you would your mother or sister or daughter. With respect!!

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER GGA: Box 744, Branford, CT, 06405 Wendy J. Gwynne, Director

Nature: See 'Gateway Gender Alliance'

NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA

NEW YORK CITY CHAPTER (GGA): c/o Fem Fashions, Penthouse B, 157 W 57th St, New York, NY 10019 (212) 582-6823 Muriel Olive, Director
Nature: See 'Gateway Gender Alliance'

LONG ISLAND SOCIAL CLUB contact: Kay & Ursula Kwarta, 50 Sunny Rd, St. James, NY 11780 (516) 584-7736
Nature: Monthly dinner parties in a non-sexual atmosphere. A social gathering for crossdressers, transsexuals, their relatives & friends.
Services: Meetings on the 4th Saturday of each month. Bring your own bottle. A $10 charge includes a hot meal. Limited space available for dressing. Reservations necessary, so enough food for all is available.
Security: A phone call to Kay will usually suffice. No drugs or excessive alcohol will be tolerated. All guests are expected to conduct themselves as ladies & gentlemen.

THE BETTER LIVING INSTITUTE c/o Joyce Dewhurst, 37-50 76 St, Jackson Heights, NY 11372
Nature: The BLI is a non-profit non-sexual social organization for novice and accomplished crossdressers. The emphasis is on novice crossdressers. Most programs are geared for the novice. Accomplished crossdressers serve as our staff at meetings. The BLI is an educational arm of Joyce Dewhurst Parties, but both are separate and distinct.
Services: The BLI provides very informal get-togethers, beauty courses and a variety of social and educational events.
Security: No screening or security requirements. If, however, you do not meet our very liberal standards you will be so advised. This has happened only four times in five years.

JOYCE DEWHURST 37-50 76 St, Jackson Heights, NY 11372
Nature: Strictly social. Open to anyone interested in the crossdressing scene.
Servicea: Joyce Dewhurst sponsors frequent parties and debutante balls in NYC, and weekend outings to the Poconos in May and September.
Security: No screening or security requirements.

BUTTERFLY Box 7161, Endicott, NY 13760 Cheryl Anne C. Director
Nature: The Butterfly group is a non-profit, non-sexual social/educational organization for persons interested in crossdressing, for transsexual persons, and for relatives and friends.
Servicea: We have social get-togethers, and a small network of professional and para-professionals, social workers, medical practitioners, beauty consultants, and clothing retailers who are interested and very helpful to us.
Security: Buterfly has no major security requirements, but we do require persons desiring to attend our meetings to be screened by our membership chairperson or other appointed member, or have a letter of introduction from a qualified person to ensure understanding and compliance with our code of conduct.

TRANSVESTITE/TRANSSEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP: J. Storm, Box 302, Buffalo, NY 14205
Nature: No additional information is available at this time.

CHI DELTA MU CHAPTER (TRI ESS) Ma Lynda Frank, Box 9192, Morristown, NJ 07960 (201) 663-0772
Nature: See 'Society for the Second Self'.
Services: Get-togethers the 2nd Saturday of each month in either Northern New Jersey or Southern Westchester County NY. Very interested in attracting wives and girl friends. We have over 75 paid members, and have been in existence for over three years.
Security: Private interview with Chapter President or qualified member.

NORTHERN NEW JERSEY CHAPTER (GGA), c/o P.O. Box 9034, Morristown, NJ 07960
Nature: See 'Gateway Gender Alliance

SUE HALL ENTERPRISES Box 74, Changewater, NJ 07831
Nature: For TV Swingers.
Servicea: Sue Hall publiahes 'The Mini-Skirt News' (a newsletter for TV Swingera with a readership in excess of 1700), has in-house partiea every Monday, and has a commercial boutique.
Security: No particular security requirementa, but dangeroua or irresponsible people are not welcome.

PHI CHAPTER (GGA), c/o L. Walker, Box 7330, Newark, DE 19711
Nature: See 'Gateway Gender Alliance'

TRANSPITT, Box 59406, Pittsburgh, PA 15211 Johnnie D. Director
Nature: TransPitt is a non-profit non-sexual social organization with an open membership policy.
Services: Meetings the third Saturday of each odd numbered month. Referrals.
Security: Meeting with Club officer.

MID ATLANTIC, SOUTHEAST

JANUS/DC: c/o Gene Baker, Advisor, 5715 16th St., NW Washington, DC 20011
Nature: Transsexual support

ACADEMY AWARDS c/o B.A. Lind, Box 11254 Lincolnia Station, Alexandria, VA 22312
Nature: Drag-Gay, with an emphasis on the performing arts.

HAMPTON ROADS CHAPTER: c/o N. Cooper, S-180 Box 2400, Virginia Beach, VA 23452
Nature: See 'Gateway Gender Alliance'

DELTA CHI CHAPTER: Box 11254 Lincolnia Sta., Alexandria, VA 22312
Nature: See 'Gateway Gender Alliance'.

ADELPHI CHAPTER, GGA: P. Haynes, Rt #1, Box 651, Marshall, VA 22115
Nature: See 'Gateway Gender Alliance'.

THE ELITE TV CO.: c/o Gigi Grant, P.O. Box 47686, Atlanta, GA 30362

MIDWEST, SOUTH-CENTRAL

PARADISE CLUB Box 17032, Cleveland OH 44117
Nature: Paradise is a non-profit non-sexual social organization with an emphasis on friendship and support (especially for wives). Paradise has approximately 90 members with an average of 50+ in attendance at each meeting.
Services: Paradise publishes a newsletter (Paradise Tales), and every other month sponsors a meeting with a catered dinner, and usually a special function such as a speaker, make-up advice, a show, etc. Paradise also sponsors informal socials during the months between regular meetings.
Security: Paradiae welcomes all mature and responsible people, and places an emphasis on good manners, common sense, and the security of all. Membership is offered only after a personal interview with an officer. Non-members may attend meetings, with concurrence of officer. Open membership, but all members must be crossdressers, and must dress at meetings.

CROSSROADS CHAPTER (President) c/o Crossroads Chapter, Box 1135, Pontiac, MI 48056-1135 (Newsletter) Grace Bacon, Box 1298, Flint MI 48501
Nature: Crossroads is a non-profit non-sexual social organization emphasizing friendship and support and the peace of mind of all. Crossroads has a formal membership of approximately 90 and an informal membership of approximately 250.
Servicea: Crossroads publishes a newsletter (Crossroads Chatter), and sponsors both formal and casual social activities. Crossroads provides referrals to other organizations nationwide, and helping professionala in the Great Lake area. Crossroads also investigates agencies, businesses and organizations, and does considerable outreach work and publicity for the paraculture.
Security: Crossroads welcomes all mature and responsible people, and places an emphasis on good manners, common sense, and the security of all.

WINDY CITY CHAPTER (GGA): P.O. Box 2312, Chicago, IL 60690 Sharon Hart, President (312) 472-4518
Nature: See 'Gateway Gender Alliance'

CHI CHAPTER (TRI ESS): c/o Mary Ann Broer, Box 2055, Des Plaines, IL 60018

Nature: See 'Society for the Second Self'

EASTERN IOWA CHAPTER (GGA): Connie Farwell, c/o Box 1205, Bettendorf, IA 52722
Nature: See 'Gateway Gender Alliance'.

INDIANA CHAPTER (GGA): c/o Windy City Chapter, Box 2312, Chicago, IL 60690
Nature: See 'Gateway Gender Alliance'

WISCONSIN NETWORK The Network, P.O. Box 632, Waukesha, WI 53187 (414) 542-5735 (3-9 p.m.)
Nature: The Newtork prefers to deal with people from a variety of life-styles (gay and bi- men and women, TVs, TSs, etc.) who are looking for long term relationships or help in developing relationships with others or with the family, friends, or other significant people in one's life.
Services: The Network includes a monthly newsletter, meetings monthly for gay men and women, bisexual men and women, and TVs and TSs. The Network also provides a monthly newsletter, social gatherings for special events, and a dating service.

SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER - GGA: Jaquiline Allen, c/o SAMC-GGA, Box 169672, San Antonio, Texas 78280-3272 Alice
Nature: See 'Gateway Gender Alliance'

INTER-MOUNTAIN, SOUTHWEST

MOUNTAIN ROSE SOCIETY Box 27795, Denver CO 80227
Nature: M.R.S. is a non-profit non-sexual social organization with an open membership policy. M.R.S. emphasizes friendship, support, good manners, common sense, and the security of all. M.R.S. welcomes all mature and responsible people.
Services: M.R.S. publishes a newsletter, sponsors frequent social events, and provides information distribution for the inter-mountain area.
Security: Private interview with a qualified representative of the Mountain Rose Society.

SPECTRUM: P.O. Box 14671, Phoenix, AZ 85063
Nature: Open membership, non-sexual

CALIFORNIA, NORTHWEST

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER (GGA): c/o W. Thomas, Box 99732, San Diego, CA 92109
Nature: See 'Gateway Gender Alliance'

SAN DIEGO/OCEANSIDE CHAPTER (SHANGRI-LA): c/o Nancy Watson, Box 18202, Irvine, CA 92713
Nature: See 'Shangri-La Club'

CROSSDRESSER HETEROSEXUAL INTERSOCIAL CLUB (CHIC) CHIC, Box 562, Duarte CA 91010 213-456-6511
Nature: CHIC is for heterosexual transvestites or crossdressers only, wives, professional people (MDs, psychologists, teachers, etc.), and friends. We are a local Southern California organization. We offer support and friendship, and stress security and good manners.
Servicea: CHIC sponsors meetings, parties, monthy dinners, and seminars on make-up, wigs, clothea, etc. CHIC publishes a monthly newsletter (CHIC Clippings), and sponsors educational programs for the public.
Security: CHIC meetings are closed - members only and approved guests. All guests muat be screened and approved by two Board members as well as the hostess if a home meeting. Prospective members must apply with a written application, be interviewed by two members of the membership committee and then approved by the Board of Directors. CHIC emphasizes strict security for all its members and guests.

ALPHA CHAPTER (LOS ANGELES, TRI-ESS): c/o Carol Beecroft, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275
Nature: See 'Society For The Second Self'

SCYROS CHAPTER (LOS ANGELES, SHANGRI-LA): c/o Nancy Watson, Box 18202, Irvine, CA 92713
Nature: See 'Shangri-La Club'

SOCIETY FOR THE SECOND SELF Carol Beecroft, Box 194, Tulare CA 93275
Nature: Tri Ess is a non-profit organization exclusively for heterosexual crossdressers.
Services: Tri Ess provides a correspondence directory, of commercial services, a magazine (The Femme Mirror), and chapters throughout the U.S.
Security: Membership in Tri Ess is open to heterosexual TVs only. Membership and attendance at a local chapter meeting requires an interview with the chapter president or older member to insure they are heterosexual and will comply with the Tri Ess code of conduct.

SHANGRI-LA CLUB Nancy Watson, Box 18202, Irvine CA 92713
Nature: Shangri-La is a non-profit social organization for crossdressers. Shangri La placea emphasis on friendship and security.
Services: Shangri-La provides a bi-monthly newsletter (Le Femme), membership directory, identification card, free mail forwarding, reduced rate invitation to regional events, a commercial services directory, and a manual on how to form local chapters. Shangri La sponsors two major events, the 5-day Spring Shangri La (Biloxi), and June Shangri La (Southern California). Shangri-La has local chapters throughout the U.S.
Security: Prospective members are interviewed by Nancy Watson or officers of the local chapters.

GATEWAY GENDER ALLIANCE Box 62283, Sunnyvale CA 94088 408-734-3773 after 6pm (PST)
Nature: GGA is a non-profit non-sexual organization for the male-to-female and female-to-male crossdresser and transsexual, and supportive friends. GGA has chapters in several areas of the U.S. and Canada, but does not require that members of a local chapter be members of the national organization. Membership must be open to all crossdressers and transsexuals, both male-to-female and female-to-male, regardless of their sexual preferences, practices or orientation.
Services: GGA provides a correspondence directory, identification card, a monthly magazine (The Phoenix), peer counseling, a hot line, and chapters throughout the U.S. and Canada.
Security: Security is the responsibility of the local chapters. Usually the requirement is a meeting with the chapter president prior to coming to a meeting to ensure understanding of GGA objectives and code of conduct.

SAN JOSE CHAPTER (GGA): c/o Box 62283, Sunnyvale, CA 94088 (408) 734-3773 (after 6 PST)
Nature: See 'Gateway Gender Alliance'.

EDUCATIONAL TV CHANNEL (ETVC): ETVC, Box 6486, San Francisco, CA 94101
Nature: ETVC is a delightful group of TVs, TSs, TGs, Significant Others, and friends. It is intenede as a social and educational group, to meet and have a good time as well as help educate the public. ETVC is non-sexual, and has an open membership policy with approximately 165 members.
Services: ETVC publishes a bi-monthly newsletter ('The ETVC Newsletter'), provides a program of social and educational activities, and referrals.
Security: The mailing and membership lists are confidential. Only the officers are permitted access to either list, except in response to judicial process. No member shall reveal the true name, address, telephone number or profession of another member to anyone, except with the other member's express permission.

SACRAMENTO CHAPTER (GGA): c/o Bonnie Goodwin, Box 38918, Sacramento, CA 95838
Nature: See 'Gateway Gender Alliance'

NORTHWEST CHAPTER (GGA) Box 13173, Portland OR 97213
Nature: See 'Gateway Gender Alliance'.
Servicea: The Northwest Chapter has at least one function each month. The days vary in order to allow all of our girls to attend as often as is possible. We also publish a monthly newsletter.
Security: Private interview with the chapter president.

EMERALD CITY Box 31318, Seattle, WA 98103
Nature: Non-sexual (sister chapter of Northwest Chapter)
Services: Frequent social functions
Security: Requirements not available at this time.

CANADA

TRANSVESTITES AU MONTREAL (TAMS) Box 1164 Station H, Montreal Que Can H3G-2N1

Nature: TAMS is a non-profit non-sexual social organizations with an open membership policy.

Services: TAMS publishes a newsletter (The Garter Press), and has frequent social get-togethers.

Security: No particular requirements stated, but participants are expected to protect the security of all.

FOREIGN

BEAUMONT SOCIETY Box 3084, London WC1N-3XX England

Nature: Beaumont is a non-profit non-sexual organization for heterosexual transvestites throughout Great Britain.

Services: Beaumont sponsors evening and weekend functions, provides counseling for TVs with problems, and a contact system for members. Beaumont also publishes two bi-monthly magazines, "The Beaumont Bulletin" which contains editorial notices, personal ads, a shopping guide, regional news, etc., and "Beaumag" which contains fictional, biographical or autobiographical stories. Beaumont also provides a library, legal advice, and a liaison and referral to other organizations. Beaumont has a network of organizations throughout Great Britain, and affiliations world-wide.

Security: Private interview with a qualified member.

TV/TS GROUP: Yvonne Sinclair, The TV/TS Group, 274 Upper Street, Islington, London England N.1 01-359-4868 (8-10 p.m. Fri., Sat. & Sun.)

Nature: Open membership, non-sexual. Additional information not available at this time.

Services: Social activities, publishes 'The Glad Rag'.

SELF HELP ASSOCIATION FOR TRANSSEXUALS (SHAFT): 46 Liddell Way, South Ascot, Berkshire, England SL5 9UX

Nature: Details are unavailable at this time.

FRIENDS MERSEYSIDE 14 Colquitt St., Liverpool, England L1 4DE 051-708-0234

Nature: See 'Beaumont Society'

FEMME TRAVESTIE 8023 Zurich, Switzerland Postfach 6788

Nature: Very active social group in Switzerland. Other details are unavailable at this time.

F.P.E. NORTHERN EUROPE: M.A. Postboks 192 DK2600, Glostrup, Denmark (Do not put F.P.E. on envelope)

Nature: See 'Beaumont Society'

ASSOCIATION BEAUMONT CONTINENTALE: Gaby Linsig, 2 Rue des Charpentiers, 68270 Wittenheim, France

Nature: See 'Beaumont Society'

ELIZABETH CLUB Ant Trading Co., Sakata Building, 1-12 Iwamoto-cho Kanda, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101, Japan

Nature: The Elizabeth Club was established in 1979 for transsexuals, androgynes, and transgenderists. We are located in major centers such as Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya.

Services: We offer storage facilities for our members. We also have consultants available for helping members with make-up and dressing. There is a rental service of clothing, wigs, etc. for members. The Elizabeth Club also publishes a magazine called "Queen" every other month. The magazine serves as a source of information to members on activities and events in Japan.

THE SEAHORSE CLUB OF AUSTRALIA Box R341, Royal Exchange, Sydney, 2000, Australia

Nature: Seahorse Club is a non-profit social organization for transvestites and families. Membership of approximately 150, welcomes new members, overseas visitors and offers support to those of us unable to emerge by means of affiliate membership. Affiliated with the Beaumont Society of England.

services: Seahorse distributes information on shopping, coming events, being femme bymeans of a monthly newsletter to members and publishes the magazine "Feminique" on a regular basis. Meetings are held in sydney on the last Friday of each month (except December, when the meeting is the 2nd or 3rd Friday). Meetings provide friendship, beauty assistance, etc.

Security: Seahorse places strong emphasis on security for all members and requires screening of prospective members before attending meetings. However, no screening is required of affiliate members (who are not advised of the meeting places) unless they wish to become full members. Overseas members require screening in the same way and overseas visitors need to be either screened or have necessary accreditation from a similar organization (e.g. Beaumont Society, Tiffany's).

SEAHORSE VICTORIA: c/o GPO Box 23372, Melbourne, Australia, 3001

Nature: See 'Seahorse Club'

GLAMOUR TECHNIQUES AND SKIN CARE BY:
Marva Ruot
For Private Consultation and Complimentary Facial
(617) 266-1959

Mary Kay COSMETICS
For Complimentary Facial or Interview Call: (617) 266-1959

Marva J. Ruot
Beauty Consultant

259 Newbury Street • Boston, MA 02116

COMING EVENTS

CALENDER OF MAJOR EVENTS, 1984-85

11/17 Tiffany's Thanksgiving Banquet
12/15 Tiffany's Christmas Party
12/15/84 Lee Brewster's Party NYC
12/15/84 TransPitt's Christmas Party
12/22/84 Phi Chapter's Christmas Party
12/31/84 Harriet Lane's New Years Party
12/31/84 Lee Brewster's Party
1/4-6/85 Joyce Dewhurst's Catskills Dude Ranch Vacation
1/19/85 Tiffany's Awards Banquet
2/16/85 Tiffany's Valentine's Party
4/4-7/85 Windy City Chapter's Spring Fling in Chicago
4/26-28/85 Shangri-La, Biloxi
5/28-6/3/85 Tiffany's Annual Convention in P-town
6/7-9/85 'Be All You Want To Be' Weekend, Michigan

NEW ENGLAND

** TIFFANY CLUB **
(Open, non-sexual) Box 19, Wayayland MA 01778 (617)358-5575
Open Meetings: Casual get-togethers 7pm each Tuesday and Saturday
Business Meetings: 8pm, 4th Saturday of each month. General and Key members are encouraged to attend.
Wives Support Group: 7:30pm, first Friday of each month
Educational Programs: Topics of specific interests (legal, medical, political, etc). irregularly scheduled
Personal Improvement Classes: (make-up, comportment, wardrobe, etc.) irrecularly scheduled
Sundays: Evenings out on the town. Patricia Anne Ashley, organizer
Halloween: 7pm, Saturday, November 3, 1984.
Thanksgiving: 7pm, Saturday, November 17, 1984
Christmas Party: 7pm, Saturday, December 15
Awards Banquet: 7pm, Saturday, January 19, 1985
Valentine's Party: 7pm, Saturday, February 16, 1985
St. Patrick's Party: 7pm, Saturday, March 16, 1985
Cross-dresser's Convention, P-town: May 28 - June 3, 1985

** OUTREACH INSTITUTE **
P.O. Box 368, Kenmore Station, Boston, MA 02215
Functions: Irregularly scheduled workshops, seminars, etc.

.Y 1 240 240 0 40 1 2 33 2 2 4 0 30 5
** MAYFOWER SOCIETY **
(Boston, sexual alternatives) Box 66, Allston MA 02134
Meetings: The weekly meeting usually begins at 7pm each Friday night.
Parties: 2nd Saturday of each month.

** HALCYON SOCIETY OF RHODE ISLAND **
(Rhode Island, open, non-sexual) Occupant, Box 143, N. Kingston RI 02852
Meetings: First Saturday evening of each month, and 3rd Sunday afternoon of each month.
Irregularly Scheduled Events: Halcyon sponsors many events such as overnight trips to P-town and Bar Harbor, boat cruises, dinners, etc. Inquire for events, dates and times.

** HARRIET LANE'S TV SET **
(Connecticut, open) Harriet Lane, Box 4002 Yalesville Sta., Wallingford CT 06492 (203)288-1166
Parties: The 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month. The 2nd Saturday is non-sexual, and the 4th Saturday anything goes. $10 per person, $15 per couple, food served, cash bar.
New Years Party: Monday, Dec. 31

** XX (TWENTY) CLUB **
(Connecticut, transsexual support) XX Club, Box 6070 Sta. 'A', Hartford CT 06106 (203)522-2646
Meetings: 2pm the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month.

** CONN. CHAPTER - GGA **
(Connecticut, Open, non-sexual) Box 744, Branford, CT 06405
Meetings: 1st and 3rd Saturday each month

NEW YORK

** NYC GGA CHAPTER **
(Open, non-sexual) Muriel Olive, Penthouse B, 157 W 57th St., , NYC NY 10019 (212)582-6823
Meetings: 3rd Saturday of each month

** JOYCE DEWHURST, BETTER LIVING INSTITUTE **
(NYC, open, parties, special programs) B.L.I., c/o Joyce Dewhurst, 37-50 76 St, Jackson Heights, NY 11372 (212)335-3048
A Dude Ranch Resort Weekend Vacation: January 4, 5, 6 1985

** LEE'S MARDI GRAS **
(Social) Lee's Mardi Gras , 565 10th Ave., NYC NY 10036
Party Dates:
Saturday, November 17th
Monday, December 3rd
Saturday, December 15th
Monday, December 31st
Columbus Day Outing: Weekend outing to Provincetown, MA. tentatively scheduled for the second weekend of October, 1985

** EULENSPIEGEL SOCIETY **
(NYC, For those with S/M & B/D fantasies) The Eulenspiegel Society, Box 2783 Grand Central Sta., NYC, NY 10163 (212) 477-6588
Functions: Frequent events specifically oriented for the TV. Inquire for times & location.

** LONG ISLAND SOCIAL CLUB **
(Open, non-sexual) Kay & Ursula Kwarta, 50 Sunny Rd, St. James, NY 11780 (516) 584-7736
Meetings: 4th Saturday of each month

** CHI DELTA MU CHAPTER (TRI ESS) **
(Metro NY, Closed, heterosexual) L. Frank, Box 9192, Morristown, NJ 07960 (201) 663-0772
Meetings: 2nd Saturday of each month, locations vary.

** BUTTERFLY **
(Western NY, Open, Non-sexual) PO Box 7161, Endicott, NY 13760)
Meetings: Scedule unavailable

** BUFFALO, NY **
(Western NY, Open) J. Storm, PO BOX 302, Buffalo, NY 14205
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

NEW JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA

** PHI CHAPTER (GGA) **
(South NJ, Phila., open non-sexual) c/o L. Walker, Box 7330, Newark, DE 19711
Meetings: 4th Saturday of each month (Sep-Jun)
Christmas Party: Dec. 22

** NU CHAPTER (GGA) **
(Northern NJ, Open, non-sexual) P.O. Box 9034, Morristown, NJ 07960
Meetings: 1st Saturday of each month

** SUE HALL **
(NJ, TVs and Swingers) Sue Hall Ent., Box 74, Changewater NJ 07831
Meetings: Mondays, dress as you like

** TRANSPITT **
(Social, open, non-sexual) Transpitt, PO Box 59406, Pittsburgh, PA 15211
Meetings: the 3rd Saturday of each odd-numbered month.
Christmas Party: Saturday, 12/15/84

MID-ATLANTIC

** DELTA CHI CHAPTER (GGA) **
(Baltimore - DC, open non-sexual) Sandy Machin, Box 11254, Lincolnia Sta., Alexandria VA 22312
Meetings: 1st Saturday of each month (Sep-Jun)
Christmas Party: Dec. 22

** ACADAMY AWARDS **
(Baltimore - Wash. DC, Drag - gay) c/o B.A. Lind, Box 11254, Alexandria, VA 22312
Functions: Inquire for events, times, and locations

** CAPITAL CHAPTER (GGA) **
(Baltimore - Wash. DC, open non-sexual) Pam Haynes, Rt #1, Box 651, Marshall VA 22115
Meetings: 3rd Saturday of each month (Sep-Jun)

** JANUS/DC **
(Washington DC, Transsexual Support) Gene Baker, Advisor, 5715 16th St. NW, Washington, DC 20011
Meetings: 4th Thursday each month

** HAMPTON ROADS CHAPTER (GGA) **
(Virginia, open) N. Cooper, S-180 Box 2400, Virginia Beach, VA 23452
Meetings: irregularly scheduled

SOUTHEAST-SOUTH

** THE ELITE TV CO. **
(Georgia, Open) Gigi Grant, P.O. Box 47686, Atlanta, GA 30362
Meetings: Inquire for time & location

** SOUTHEAST FLORIDA SOCIAL CLUB **
(Open, non-sexual) Nikki Bee, Box 307, Hollywood, FL 33022
Meetings: No schedule available at this time.

** GENDER DYSPHORIA CENTER **
(Galveston, transsexual support) Alice (713) 763-6227
Meetings: 1st Saturday each month exept July, August & September

** SAN ANTONIO - GGA **
(Texas, Open, Non-sexual) Jaquiline Allen, c/o SAMC-GGA, Box 169672, San Antonio, TX 78280-3272
Meetings: schedule unavailable

MIDWEST

** WINDY CITY CHAPTER (GGA) **
(Chicago, open non-sexual) Sharon Renee Hart, Box 2312, Chicago IL 60690 (312) 472-4518
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of every month
Spring Fling In Chicago: April 4-7, 1985. Details pending.

** CHI CHAPTER (TRI ESS) **
(Illinois, closed heterosexual) Mary Ann Broer, Box 2055, Des Plaines IL 60018
Meetings: 3rd Saturday of each month

** CROSSROADS CHAPTER **
(Michigan, open non-sexual) Crossroads Chapter, Box 1298, Flint MI 48501
Meetings: Irregularly scheduled

** PARADISE CLUB **
(Ohio, open non-sexual) Paradise Club, Box 24363, Cleveland OH 44124
Meetings: 3rd Saturday of each even numbered month. (There are re-reports of socials during the odd numbered months, but inquire first.)

** NORTH INDIANA CHAPTER (GGA) **
(Indiana, Open, non-sexual) c/o Sharon Hart, Box 2312, Chicago, IL 60690 (312) 472-4518
Meetings: Inquire first

** IOWA/ILLINOIS CHAPTER (GGA) **
(Eastern Iowa, Western Illinois, Open, Non-sexual) Connie Farwell, c/o Box 1205, Bettendorf, IA 52722
Meetings: Inquire for time & location

** WISCONSIN NETWORK **
(Open to gay and bi- men and women as well as TVs and TSs, non-sexual) Dee Dailey, P.O. Box 632, Waukesha, WI 53187 (414) 542-5735
Meetings: 4th Wednesday of each month

INTER-MOUNTAIN

** MOUNTAIN ROSE SOCIETY **
(Colorado, open non-sexual) M.R.S., Box 27795, Denver CO 80227
Meetings: 1st Friday of each month at locations to be announced. Also there are reports of daytime meetings, but inquire first.

** DENVER GENDER IDENTITY CENTER **
(Service, information, contacts and professional staff serving the crossdressing community.) Denver GIC, 2715 W. 32nd Ave, Denver CO 80211, 303-458-5378
Morning Group: Inquire for time & day
Adolescent Group: Scheduled according to need. Inquire first.
Spouses Group: 1st Tuesday of each month. (Subject to change. Inquire first.)
Monday Evening Rap Session: Every Monday, 8 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Group: (For those ready to deal with the issues.) Every Wednesday, 8 p.m.
Voice & Movement: Every Saturday, 10 a.m. (by registration only)
Irregularly Scheduled Events: Workrkshops and seminars for professionals, education, etc. Inquire for topics, times & dates.

** COMMIT **
(Colorado, Social/Service) Commit, P.O. Box 61316, Denver, CO 61316 (303) 297-9585
Business meetings: 1st Tuesday of each month
Membership meetings: 2nd Tuesday of February, May, September

SOUTHWEST

** SPECTRUM **
(Arizona, open, non-sexual) P.O. Box 14671, Phoenix AZ 85063
Meetings: Inquire for time & location

CALIFORNIA

** SOCIETY FOR THE SECOND SELF (TRI ESS) **
(Chapters nation-wide, closed, heterosexual) Carol Beecroft, Box 194, Tulare CA 93275
Alpha Chapter: (Los Angeles) Inquire
Sigma Delta Chapter: (San Diego) Inquire

** CHIC (CROSSDRESSER HETEROSEXUAL INTERSOCIAL CLUB **
(Closed, heterosexual) CHIC, Box 562, Duarte CA 91010 (213)456-6511
Meetings: 3rd Saturday of each month

** SHANGRI-LA CLUB **
(National membership, open non-sexual) Nancy Watson, Box 19202, Irvine CA 92713
Scyros Chapter: 1st Saturday of each month
Shangri-La West: Annual outing held each June in Stallion Springs, California
Shangri-La '85: Annual five-day vacation held each April near Biloxi, Mississippi

** SAN DIEGO CHAPTER (GGA) **
(Open non-sexual) W. Thomas, Box 99732, San Diego CA 92109
Meetings: Inquire first

** GATEWAY GENDER ALLIANCE (GGA) **
(Chapters throughout North America, open non-sexual) GGA, Box 62283, Sunnyvale CA 94088 (408)734-3773
San Francisco: 2nd Wednesday each month 8pm
San Jose: 8pm 1st and 3rd Friday each month
Santa Rosa: 1st Friday and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 2525 Cleveland Ave. (707) 526 2500
Sacramento Chapter: 2nd Friday of each month. Write: Bonnie Goodwin, Box 38918, Sacramento CA 95838

** PACIFIC CENTER **
(Community Services for sexual minorities) P.O. Box 908, Berkeley, CA 94701 (408) 841-6224
Meetings: Rap sessions the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month
Special Topic or Speaker: Last Friday of each month

** EDUCATIONAL TV CHANNEL (ETVC) **
(San Francisco, Open, Non-sexual) Box 6486, San Francisco, CA 94101
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

NORTHWEST, HAWAII

** NORTHWEST CHAPTER-PORTLAND (GGA) **
(open, non-sexual, Box 13173, Portland OR 97213
Meetings: Inquire for time & location

** EMERALD CITY **
(Open, non-sexual) Emerald City, Box 31318, Seattle WA 98103
Meetings: Inquire for time & location

** SEATTLE COUNSELING SERVICE **
(TV/TS Support group, non-sexual) Seattle Counseling Service, 1505 Broadway, Seattle, WA 98122
Meetings: Every Friday 8-10 p.m.

** SEXUAL IDENTITY CENTER **
(Hawaii) 2139 Kuhio Ave, Honolulu, HI 96813 926-1000
Meetings: Discussion group, 7:30, every Tuesday

CANADA

** TRANSVESTITES AU MONTREAL (TAMS) **
(Open, non-sexual) CP 1164 Succ H, Montreal, Que Can H3G-2N1
Meetings: 2nd Saturday 2:00pm, and 4th Thursday 7:30pm.

** QUEBEC TRANSSEXUAL AID, INC. **
(Transsexual support, French speaking) Viviane Audrey, Box 385, Mont-Royal Quebec, Canada H3P-3E6
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

** FACT (FOUNDATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF CANADIAN TRANSSEXUALS) **
FACT, Box 291, Sta. 'A', Hamilton Ont Can L8N-3C8 416-539-7884
Meetings: 2nd Friday of each month, visitors welcome

** METAMORPHOSIS **
(Support for the F-M transsexual) Box 5963, Sta. 'A', Toronto Ont Can M5W-1P4
Meetings: Inquire for time & location

GREAT BRITAIN

** BEAUMONT SOCIETY **
(Closed, heterosexual) Beaumont Society, Box 3084, London England 2C1N-3XX
Meetings: Schedule unavailable, but frequent meetings in 11 chapters.

** SHAFT (SELF HELP ASSOCIATION FOR TRANSSEXUALS) **
(Transsexual support, non-sexual) SHAFT, 46 Liddell Way, South Ascot, Berkshire, England SL5-9UX
Meetings: Inquire for time & location

** FRIEND MERSEYSIDE **
(Closed, heterosexual) 14 Cololquitt St., Liverpool, L1-4DI England (051)708-0234
Meetings: Fridays 8pm onwards

** THE TV/TS SOCIAL GROUP **
(Open, non-sexual) 274 Upper St., Islington, London N.1. England 01-359-4868 (Fri, Sat, Sun 8-10pm)
Meetings: Every Saturday and Sunday from 7:30 to 11:00pm, at the above address

EUROPE

** TRANS-CCL **
(France, support for sexual minorities) Rev. Joseph Douce, Centre du Christ Liberateur, Minorites Sexuelles, TRANS-CCL, 3 bis, rue Clairaut, 75017 Paris - France (1) 226-7048 (also, help line Mon. 8-10pm [1] 627-4936) (Rev. Douce speaks English)
Meetings: 8pm, 2nd Tuesday of each month
Dinner: 5th Saturday of the month (4 times a year)

** ASSOCIATION BEAUMONT CONTINENTALE **
(France, closed membership, heterosexual) Gaby Linsig, 2 Rue des Charpentiers, 68270 Wittenheim, France
Meetings: Schedule not available

** F.P.E. **
(Denmark, closed membership, heterosexual) M.A. Postboks 192, DK2600, Glostrup, Denmark (do not put F.P.E. on envelope)
Meetings: Schedule not available

** FEMME TRAVESTIE **
(Switzerland, inquire for membership qualifications) Femme Travestie, 8023 Zurich, Postfach 6788, Switzerland
Meetings: Schedule not available, but very active

FAR EAST, AUSTRALIA

** ELIZABETH CLUB **
(Japan, open) Ant Trading Co., Sakata Bldg, 1-12 Iwamoto-Cho Kanda, Chiuoda-Ku, Tokyo 101, Japan
Meetings: No schedule available. Private facilities in Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya

** SEAHORSE CLUB **
(Australia, affiliated with England's Beaumont Society)
Seahorse Victoria (Melbourne) GPO Box 2337V, Melbourne 3001 Australia - Meeting schedule unavailable.
The Seahorse Club of Australia (Sydney) Box R341, Royal Exchange, Sydney 2000, Australia - Meetings: Last Friday of each month
National Seahorse Club of Australia (Adelaide) write: Lynda Ailion, P.O. Box 89, Norwood, South Australia 5067 - meeting schedule unavailable

** HEDESTHIA **
(New Zealand, affiliated with England's Beaumont Society) Ms J.F. Gall (National Secretary), Hedesthia Central, P.O. Box 78-026, Grey Lynn, Auckland 2 New Zealand
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

VACATIONS

JOYCE DEWHURST'S DUDE RANCH RESORT WEEKEND: (Catskill Mtns., NY,open , non-sexual) Joyce Dewhurst,37-50 76th St., Jackson Heights, NY 11372 (212)335-3048
January 4,5,6 1985: 3-day event at a resort in the Catskills

TIFFANY'S 5TH ANNUAL PROVINCETOWN OUTING: (Cape Cod, open non-sexual) The Tiffany Club, P.O. Box 19, Wayland, MA., 01778 (617)358-5575
May 27 thru June 3, 1985: Annual 3 to 6 day event held each Spring in Provincetown, MA. This is the 'Club Med Vacation' for Crossdressers and friends. There are unlimited activities available in a friendly sea-side community.
There are 3, 4, and 6 day packages available.

THE 'BE ALL YOU WANT TO BE WEEKEND': (Michigan, for members of Crossroads Chapter, Chi Chapter, Paradise Club)
Time pending: An annual weekend outing held in early June in Michigan. The outing has a schedule of events that includes a legal seminar, a behavior seminar, a fashion clinic, etc.

DREAM: (Oregon, open, non-sexual) DREAM, Box 58, 507 3rd Ave., Seattle WA 98104
September: Semi-annual high quality 7-day event held in the fall near Portland Oregon. Features condominiums, and a 5-day fashion-/beauty course. Last held September 1983. Probable next date: September 1985.

SHANGRI-LA: (open, non-sexual) Nancy Watson, Box 18202, Irvine, CA 92713
April 1985 in Biloxi Mississippi
June 20-23, 1985, Annual 3-day event held in Stallion Spring, California

SPRING FLING IN CHICAGO: Windy City Chapter, Box 2312, Chicago, IL 60690
April 4 thru April 7, 1985.
This event is sponsored by the Windy City Chapter of the Gateway Gender Alliance, and is the first of what will hopefully be an annual event. Details pending.

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LETTERS

Dear Merissa

I aremember when I read my first issue of 'Tapestry'. The club notes from all over talked a lot about what everyone was having for Thanksgiving dinner. How far the magazine has come since then! The articles are so helpful and encouraging, and so well written too. I hope the magazine has a wide distribution among the "helping professionals". I don't know where else they could learn so much, so quickly and so accurately. May your editors live a thousand years.

Love,
Paula R.

Dear Merissa

I received Issue #43 of the Tapestry. The pictures and articles were good. They brough back many fond memories of Provincetown. I only wish that I lived closer to Boston so that I could participate in more of your activities.

L,
Shirley (CO-0493)

Dear Merissa

After joining Tiffany Club my first response arrived not in the form of a copy of the Tapestry but rather a letter from a sister TV making an initial step out of the closet. I felt very glad to be of assistance in referring her to an excellent therapist in the area and in just being able to help in any way possible.

The most important discovery I made for myself though, was finding faith in the support that the organization was able to provide. My contact received my address through correspondence with Kim Schreiber of your staff. It's good to know the system works. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,
Julie Lewis (AZ)

Dear Editor

I am writing this letter to express my appreciation for the article "Fort Madison, Iowa" printed on page 52 of issue #42.

I was very pleased to have read that article about myself. I also very much enjoyed the 'TV-TS Tapestry'. I have never seen a TV-TS publication quite like it. It is wonderful. Please continue you ourstanding work.

Thanks again.
Tammy Lynn White

RUPERT RAJ, Exec. Dir. Metamorphosis Medical Research Foundation

Dear Merissa

I thoroughly enjoyed the last three issues of the 'TV-TS Tapestry' (issues 41, 42 & 43) including especially (among others) the feature articles by: Ms Susan C. Huxford, Mr. Roger E. Peo, and Dr. Leah C. Shaefer (the first of whom is a member of the MMRF Board of Directors, and the second and third of whom are members of our Board of Advisors). I was also gratified to see that you published my article, my personal memoirs and my poem in issues 42 and 43 respectively. I am now enclosing another article, "The Need To Network" for future publication in your top-of-the-line magazine. Its message, I know, is very close to your own heart as evidenced by the policy statement you make on page 5 of each issue: "We must all work together."

I was especially impressed, as well, by your feature article "Definitions" in the last issue. I would like to suggest the addition of two more terms to your extensive lists: the term "Pan-sexual" in lieu of your usage of the word, "tri-sexual" (will try anything sexual). And also, the word "Humansexual"--which I consider myself to be, and which I believe is one of the most meaningful and relevant terms employed today due to its very beneficial conseciousness-raising capa-

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city. I cannot take credit for the coining of this happiest of terms as that credit goes to the gay group at the University of Waterloo in Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario. I don't recall their precise definition of this word, but, my particular interpretation is as follows: "Humansexuality: a romantic, sexual, loving attraction to a particular person (male or female, man or woman) such that the humanity and the personality of the specific individual taqkes the precedence over the sexuality (sex and gender) and the genitalia of the person. In other words, a humansexual lover would see - and relate to - the beloved one not as a 'sex-object', per se, but rather, primarily as a particular person, a specific individual, a significant 'other' who is also perceived as - and permitted to be - an initiating 'self' in his/her own right. In this way, a humansexual is beyond being bisexual for although the sexuality - and the 'sexiness' - of the person involved is certainly important, in an integral sense, yet, it is still only an incidental aspect of the person, as a whole. Humansexual love, therefore, would address itself to (in passionate embrace) the mind, heart, soul and body of the beloved - regardless of his/her sex and gender."

Merissa, Keep up the splendid jobs you are doing as magazine editor and Club director. It is readily apparent that your efforts are greatly appreciated by your subscribers/readers, members and by professional and peer-counselors, as well. I also laud your sincere efforts as a 'networker' in the TV-TS Community. We definitely need more people of your calibre and dedcation!

Love and Peace
Rupert Raj

Dear Merissa

Thank you for sending me the Tapestry. I find it to be a very informative publication. You and your staff are to be commended for the work you all put into it.

Your article on definitions was very good. Keep it up, as I am sure you are helping quite a large number of people.

My best to all,
Dorothy H. (TX)

Dear Merissa

You gals are doing a beautiful job with TAPESTRY. I anxiously await each issue. It is nice that there is one publication that is not sexually oriented and presents us as human beings rather than sexual trash. I shudder to think what the outside world thinks of us when they happen to see that stuff that is in the adult bookstores. I'm certain that those books only confirm their worse thoughts about us.

I wish that I lived closer so that I could take advantage of the many activities the ladies of Tiffany conduct. It sounds wonderful to a gal out here in the vast wasteland.

Keep up the great work.

Love & Happiness
Terri (MI-0476)

(*** To all you gals in the vast wasteland: The wasteland is not so vast. What Tiffany does can be done anywhere. All it takes is one or two people who will take a leadership role, and not just sit on their honches and hope that 'somebody else' will do it for them. - ED)

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Dear Merissa

I truly enjoy reading the Tapestry, and find it most interesting from cover to cover. It also assured me that I am not alone with my thoughts and interests.

Thank you
Charlene (MA)

To All At The Tiffany Club

It was a great part of my day when I was taken into the Club. The other ladies were so warm in welcoming me, that I feel I should let them know hou much I enjoyed meeting them. I also want to say how much I feel for the beliefs of a club like Tiffany, and the work that Tiffany does, not only in showing a TS, like myself, that he/she is not alone, but to offer a chance for us to seek direction and understanding.

Sincerely,
Tammy Elizabeth Foss (MA-0589)

P.S. Great work on the Magazine!

Dear Merissa

The present issue of the 'Tapestry' (#43) is my second copy and I am most intrigued. From the previous issue I did make contact with a couple of "sisters" (I'm not yet totally comfortable with that expression...) and have started to learn - to my very great pleasure - that a heterosexual cross-dresser is not as much an abberation as I was beginning to think.

I am really in the start phases of allowing my feminine self to have expression and exposure and I am finding that with the help of a couple of contacts I have made in responding to listings in the 'Tapestry' and the articles in the 'Tapestry' itself I am on the way to being both comfortable and at ease with "Sandi" - my female self. So much of what I have read in your publication and what has been written to me by these new friends is such an accurate expression of my own feelings that I am really pleased to have finally made contact.

In terms of formalizing association, I think I am gettiang very close. I have met with Mary Jane (local contact for Tri-Ess) and have been "accepted". My feeling now is that if I am going to make a commitment, I want to make a real commitment for only then will I find out just how total an experience I want over a long term. Unfortunately, Locally it will still be a closet situation - all the more important, then, in my opinion, to have an "outlet" which is "out".

Sandi (NY)

Dear Merissa

The quality and scope of the Tapestry has improved immensely, and the last issue is super. I enjoyed it all, especially the two fiction stories by **Terri** and **Liz**. I'm sure that we all can relate to them.

Many thanks for the outstanding job that you are doing.

Suzanne

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LETTER FROM INA RUBIN AND PHIL SALEM OF THE "U.S. TV-TS CONTACT SERVICE", 1017 B. EAST PIKE ST, SEATTLE WA 98122

Dear Merissa

Four years ago Ina Rubin and I decided to start the world's only TV-TS nationwide contact service. We didn't call it a dating service because that would connote certain things - although in actuality we are a dating service.

When we began the Contact Service, Ina answered the phones and discovered that many people out there are very serious, but many are not. Also, she was overwhelmed with phone calls at strange hours of the night. The Contact Service was originally free, and based on the concept that if a crossdresser was willing to give out their phone number, which was verified, we would supply people with another phone number. This system lasted for six months but because of all the crank calls Ina felt it was no longer realistic to maintain it.

A directory was published for $20 that listed thousands of phone numbers, and people purchased it gladly. The problem was that many people abused it, and every time we did a spot check, we discovered hundreds of phone numbers had been disconnected.

After two years of frustration, a new system was developed; a much more personalized system. We received from admirers (male or indoor transvestites) a forty word description plus a picture plus $40 for the application. Membership was free. In other words, there were no yearly dues. Basically we felt you were either committed to the scene or not. If an individual could not afford $40 for a 15-20 year period, they shouldn't join. So immediately we eliminated many of the jokesters, pranksters, and players who called us. Most transactions could be consummated by phone, but most people, even though long distance rates were cheaper, preferred to do things by mail.

* * * *

If a person wants to call us and tell us about their life history, that's fine. The nation-wide 24-hour hotline number is 206-624-8266. But what we are really about is introducing people for social/sexual interractions.

The fact is that there are almost 1 million American males who are hooked on the idea of 'making it' with a TV, a TS, or a she-male. Blame it on Club Magazine, or those Sulka videos, or whatever, but there is a she-male shortage in the country. The shrinkage occured right after Stonewall, when it became less acceptable for gay men to crossdress. 'Be butch' was the credo of the National Gay Community, except for possibly the South where drag is till a sin qua non for an effeminate 18 year old male. But in the Seattles, San Franciscos, and New Yorks of the country the scene was decidedly turning masculine. Today's lean 17 year old pretty gay male with the right nose, face, and body is more apt to be into body building than drag. What a shame!

So who's out there for all these admirers? hundreds of post-operative TSs use the Contact Service with little success. Do you know how difficult it is for a post-operative TS over forty, who had been a male for most of her life, to find someone for a steady relationship? Heterosexual TVs use the Contact Service to find women? I have 78 women admirers of of 6,000 members. Not very good odds! Many TVs just want to meet another TV for what we call in the business 'lesbian' lovemaking. Each really expecting the other to be more passable. Let's face it, it's pretty easy to meet people if you're under 25 and don't live in Laramie, Wyoming.

We're like a stock exchange - lots of people calling us and wanting to make transactions. "Hi! I am Tina from Phoenix - 27 pre-op and want to meet a masculine man, no TVs please." "Hi! We're Cynthia and Mike from Joliet, and we're looking for an indoor TV who would want to be with a couple." "Hi! I'm Harry from Orlando, and I want to meet a crossdresser when I am in New Orleans next week." "Hi! I'm Ronald, a business executive from Philly, and I'm going down to Houston and want to dress up and go out with a male escort around the town." Everyone has a different story and that's why each application has to be treated with care and personalization.

If someone calls from Boston I gladly give them Tiffany's address. Tapestry is one of the best publi-

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cations out there. If they're calling from the Southwest, I tell them about Linda's terrific TV newsletter. An objective of ours is to have a working relationship with the straight, TV, and gay press. We recruit she-males by contacting plastic surgeons, going to bars, doing correspondence. Leave it to Ina, if ther's a way, she finds it, but it isn't easy.

TVs, TSs, CDs, swinger couples, and females receive free memberships. If you are a TV or TS that wants to meet other TVs and TSs, then there is the $40 application fee, good for life. Naturally, since Ina loves heterosexual TVs and I love TVs and TSs, we want to encourage women throughout the country to experience the nuances of TV lovemaking and we want want TVs and TSs to really feel feminine and not just look it, and experience a relationship with a male admirer. An admirer is a person you can trust, who knows your scene, and will respect you.

So, until Ruppert Murdoch does a story on us in either the Boston Herald or the New York Post, thank you Tapestry.

Yours,
Ina Rubin and Phil Salem

INTRODUCING ETVC, San Francisco

Hi Merissa

Some time ago (back in the middle of June) you sent me a very nice letter describing Tiffany as well as your flyers. I wanted to bring to Tiffany's attention a group out here in which I am active, so I've enclose our By-laws, & our most recent newsletter (published every 2 months).

'ETVC' (Educational TV Channel) dates to May, 1982, although I've only been involved for about a year. We have a mailing list of aboaut 165, about 70 - 80 members each year, and about 35 - 45 people attending each monthly party (80 came last year for Halloween). If anyone would like more information about ETVC, they can write: ETVC, Box 6486, San Francisco, CA 94101

Take Care.
Robin Miller

Dear Ms Lynn

Recently I noticed an ad for TAPESTRY in the Canadian newsletter GENDER REVIEW, and requested a copy by way of Susan Huxford, Director of FACT.

Thank you for sending it so promptly.

I have been looking it over for the last two or three days and feel a bit overwhelmed. I'm not sure that I know where to start.

Maybe some personal information is in order. I'm 41, married (three years), and have been cross-dressing off and on since the age of eleven. Although I've never undergone analysis, I've read a considerable amount of the available literature on the categories of transvestism and transsexualism, and am still unable to classify myself in either category as strictly as the definitions would seem to require.

The fact that I have not undertaken the necessary steps to sex-reassignment surgery by this date probably indicates that I am more likely a TV than a TS. Five years ago, I began to give the matter of eventual surgery very serious thought, and at the time considered myself as heading in that direction. Since that time, however, I met a nice - and under-

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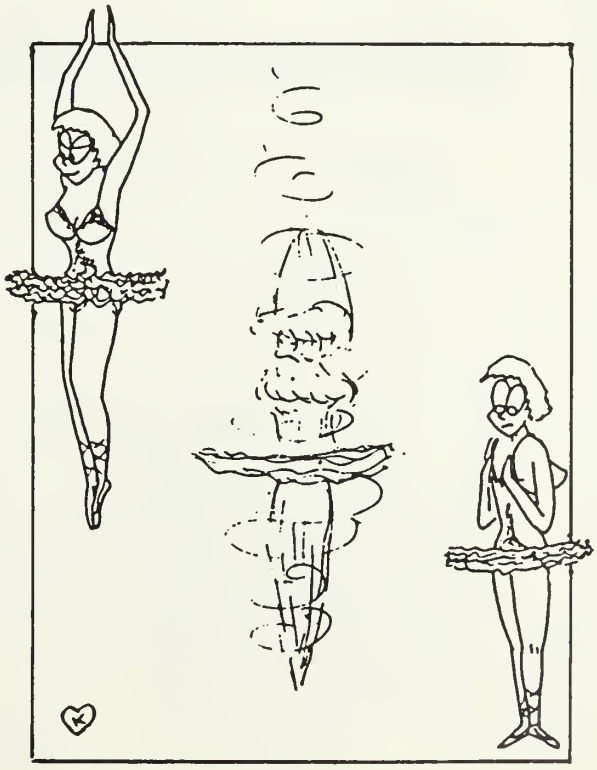

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standing - young woman, fell in love, and married. Moreover, I befriended a true transsexual male who had had a vast range of experiences, had been born female and raised so until age ten, was 'corrected' (?!)) to live as a male until age 19, then lived as a female impersonator until age 25, turned 'male' again to serve two tours in Viet Nam plus a three year stint as a Hollywood stunt man, then altered twice more before settling finally to sex reassignment - male to female - just this past two months. An intriguing life...

Although I myself have never managed to disavow entirely the notion that I would rather have been born female, I have reason to suspect now that transsexualism is a somewhat more complex enterprise than transvestism.

I am happy as a heterosexual male, but have resolved that if my wife were to die unexpectedly (and I sincerely hope that does not happen), I would then begin to undergo the whole complicated process toward seeking eventual sex reassignment.

There was a long time in my life when I did not exhibit any particular interest in transvestism and transsexualism; oh, I thought about it from time to time, but merely as a matter of academic interest. Having pleaded and prayed myself silly to God from age eleven to age 19 to change me into a girl (it seemed like such an unselfish and simple request), I resolved to get used to my masculinity - curiously enough, during the rebellious and androgynous '60s.

My mind changed suddenly in 1982. You may remember the superb film, "I Want What I Want', which starred Anne Heywood. All my teenage, and pre-teen memories came flooding back to me. Since that time, I have considered myself a transsexual, without the guts to go through with the operation.

At the same time, however, I did derive - and still do - pleasure out of typical male heterosexuality. I have put it down to some selfishness at not wanting to give up being a male.

So, as I indicated, I can't entirely catagorize myself.

Ruth (Canada)

EASTERN IOWA CHAPTER GGA, c/o Box 1205, Bettendforf, IA 52722

Dear Tapestry

First, let me be sure that you understand that this letter is written to all of you wonderful people who work on and contribute to the Tapestry. Thank you! Your magazine is a fine mix of all that is possible for us.

When my copy of Tapestry arrives, it bolsters my sometimes sagging commitment to try and help others in our community. It is like a periodical shot of vitamin 'E' (for Enthusiasm). Thank you, again!

There is one point I want to make with our readers. I am the chapter leader of a local GGA chapter. I am the leader because when the chapter formed I was the only member. We have not yet celebrated our first anniversary and already there are ten of us.

Who can be a chapter leader? Anyone who feels there is a need!

What skills do you need? Whatever skills you possess will be sufficient to the task.

Won't every busybody in town find out about me? Only if you choose to let them know.

How do I begin? You simply begin.

Join whichever organization you prefer, declare yourself a chapter, and ask for help.

What if I fail? I doubt that you will! But if you do, you will have the lifelong satisfaction of having done the best you could.

Beauty is highly valued in our community. I can imagine many of you thinking, "Yes, but I'm not pretty enough." Bullshit! Beauty is not skin deep. It begins in your heart and radiates outward. If you have the heart to help others as best you can, you are one of the Most Beautiful People.

Thanks again to all of you on the Tapestry staff. Thanks to everyone who has begun a local group. Thanks especially to everyone who will begin a local group. Bless you all.

Love,
Connie F. (GGA-IA 13)

DAISY CLUB: New Group Forming In Western New York

Dear Merissa

I am interested in starting a support group here in Geneva NY to serve crossdressers of the Finger Lakes area. I don't think I can get things started before next Spring, but have already begun work on such aspects as membership process, annual dues, and activities. I will call it the 'Daisy Club', and it shall provide a confidential, secure, non-threatening atmosphere for crossdressers, TVs and TSs to express their inner personalities. The group's activities will be strictly non-sexual and legal.

I have been working on a newsletter to introduce the club. I'll be sure to send you a copy when things start rolling.

Sincerely,
Renee' S. (NY)

WIVES GROUP

Just a note to let you know how wonderful Tiffany Club is. I never knew that there was such an organization and meeting place where a TV could meet other TVs and discuss all the problems that are related with being married, and also being a crossdresser.

I also want to thank all of my new friends and the wives of the Wife Support Group for being so helpful and supportive on the first meeting that my wife and I attended. We now now have a better understanding of each other. We are both looking forward to attending the Wives Support Group weekend in P-town.

I never imagined that I would ever see the day that my wife would visit Tiffany Club, let alone join a group there.

Again, thanks to all concerned.

Sincerely,
Laura G.

OPEN HOUSE, WIVES SUPPORT

To All:

I wish to express my appreciation for your efforts and the efforts of those who are able to take more active participation in Tiffany. Your September cookout, although rained on, was not dampened in spirit. My thanks to you and all the others who make Tiffan a unique and extrememly pleasurable experience.

I would also like to "plug" the Wives Support Group - my spouse and I have benefitted immeasurably from the group, both in terms of understanding ourselves, as well as understanding one another.

Thank you all so much!

Janet (NH)

CLAMBAKE '84

Dear Merissa

Cannot tell you how much I enjoyed the Clambake, even if Joe & Carol did put me to work making a barbeque pit. (For the past 25 years my hands were only use to writing numbers!!!)

It was great to see so many of our old & new friends from P-town. P-town, by the way, was one of my best, & I have been to three of them now. I intend to come again next year & every yhear after that until I go to the great TV Scene in the sky.

Love, Harriet Lane

OPEN HOUSE '84

Dear Merissa

Thank you for an indescribably delicious feed at the Fall Open House. Unfortunately, I had to miss the Clambake, but the Open House certainly made up for that. Jo & Carol are to be commended along with all the other kitchen workers for preparing such a wonderful dinner.

Nice to meet some new people and to find visitors from Canada, and other far flung places. I think all had a good time.

Love,
Pat (ME)

CHI DELTA MU CHAPTER - TRI ESS, c/o L. Frank, box 9192, Morristown, N. J. 07960

Dear Merissa

I have just received the latest issue of the Tapestry. It most certainly is a fine piece of work.

Since I have become active in Chi Delta Mu Chapter of Tri Ess there are some comments I would like to make. We are as a Chapter now starting an outreach operation. Our only purpose, as is yours, is to help people. I realize the conflict between those who support open groups and those who support closed ones, but I feel there is a real need for both.

Chi Delta Mu is of the latter type, serving heterosexual transvestites. Any heterosexual transvestite in the Greater New York Metropolitan area who might be looking for a specialized self help group such as Chi Delta Mu can contact me: L. Frank, Box 9192, Morristown, NJ 07960 or call: (201) 663-0772.

Looking forward to seeing you again at Fantasia Fair in October.

In all sincerity,
Lynda (NJ-0321)

Forum

The Forum is for exploring what we think, what we feel, what we say and do. It is for exploring our difficulties, our guilts and fears, and how we can overcome them. The Forum is not for fiction, or fantasy, or technical articles. Rather, it is for talk, for thought, for understanding ourselves and one another, and sharing ourselves with others.

If you have an item you wish to submit for publication in the Forum, send it to: Editor, The Tapestry, P.O. Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

GUEST EDITORIAL

(Reprinted from the MMRF Newsletter Vol. 3, No.5, Metamorphosis Medical Research Foundation, Box 5963, Station A, Toronto, Ontario Canada M5W-1P4)

THE NEED TO NETWORK

by Rupert Raj, Dir. MMRF

Perhaps you could call me "The Networker" (or at least one of a limited few) for, if I had a dollar for every initiative letter that I have written (especially over the past 6 1/2 years during my outreach work as Founding Director of FACT/Editor of **GENDER REVIEW** from 1978-81, and, as Founding Director of MMRF/Editor of **METAMORPHOSIS** from Dec. 1981 up to the present) to TS and TV support groups and professional treatment centers throughout the world, I'd practically be a millionaire today.

Now, I'm not out to "blow my own horn" here, but rather, to state a very important point: There is a tremendous need to tighten up the TS-TV network and to link together the loose links in this chain. We must increase our efforts to network together--for, there are now more TSs, TVs, TGs and CDs who need help and support than there are resources available. We should also begin to chart maps--marking the locations of these various "oases in the desert". By "oases" I am referring not only to TS and TV support groups, social clubs, service organizations, gender identity centers, individual peer-counsellors and editors of periodicals, but also, to private and univertity-based gender identity clinics/gender dysphoria programs, professional sexological associations and individual health care and social service professionals.

There is an equally-great need to further develop this rather informal network of helping professionals who are currently researching and treating gender dysphorics.

This need to formalize a co-operative network (comprising professional, para-professional, lay: TS, TG, TV, and other persons) is quite obvious once one considers the implications of the following anecdote: It took a person (myself) from another country (Canada) to advise a sex therapist from Brookfield, Wisconsin (who works with gender-dysphoric patients there) that there existed, in her own home state (in Waukesha) a support group for TSs, TVs, etc. And, once again, it took a person (myself) from another nation (Canada) to introduce to each other two people who were attending the same conference (in Boston), who were both working on their doctoral dissertations on male transvestism, who were both advisory members of the same organization (MMRF), and who were both from the same state (New York: one from Poughkeepsie, the other from Mount Vernon). These two examples emphatically demonstrate the indubitable need, in my mind, for more effective networking - NOW!

To some degree, such networking now exists. For example: THE TV-TS TAP-

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ESTRY (a quarterly magazine published by the TIFFANY CLUB in Wayland, MA.) which lists comprehensive resources on an international level.

The GATEWAY GENDER ALLIANCE in Sunnyvale, CA. (which publishes THE PHOENIX-Monthly International, and which has 16 chapters throughout the U.S.).

THE NETWORK/NEWS in Waukesha, WI. (which is in the process of establishing a nationwide dating service and sujpport network).

The affiliation between THE SEAHORSE CLUB in Sydney, Australia (which publishes a regular magazine FEMINIQUE) and THE BEAUMONT SOCIETY in London, England (which publishes two bimonthly magazines: BEAUMAG and THE BEAUMONT BULLETIN).

The OUTREACH PROFESSIONAL EVALUATION AND REFERRAL NETWORK (formed by the HUMAN OUTREACH AND ACHIEVEMENT INSTITUTE in Boston, MA. - which also publishes a quarterly newsletter).

And of course, the HARRY BENJAMIN INTERNATIONAL GENDER DYSPHORIA ASSOCIATION in Stanford, CA. (which sponsores a bi-annual, international gender dysphoria symposium).

But, how far-reaching are many of these publications/organizations? With the possible exception of THE TAPESTRY and THE PHOENIX, most such periodicals-/groups have a very limited circulation/membership (between 100-500), don't have international status and often, cater to exclusive groups (e.g. TS only, TV only, etc.).

Yet, the gaps in the professional network are, to my mind, even more glaring. Moreover, I can imagine many helping professionals are often at a total loss when it comes to referring clients/patients to appropriate support groups--simply for want of accurate, up-to-date information. It is, therefore, imperative that aboth the two networks (peer and professional) interface and work together, in compliment, towards the optimum, over-all benefit of clients/patients. This inter-linking of networks will bring about a much more effective chain of life-saving "oases in the desert".

So, come on peers and professionals, let's link together and network now!

- END -

TERRI'S THOUGHTS
by Terri Scott

I AM WHAT I AM

"Women simply are not men... I've always recognized that we're so very different emotionally." - Katherine Hepburn, PARADE magazine, November 27, 1983

However, can men be women without the hormones that make a female different emotionally? I feel that we can be women mentally and emotionally at least as far as a male can go without female hormones. The more time that I spend as a woman, the more 'woman' I become emotionally and mentally. The more woman I become, the happier and more content I become. The real me, the person who I was forced to suppress for years while attempting to be the male that my body and society says I should be, is now free. I am a woman regardless of my body or society

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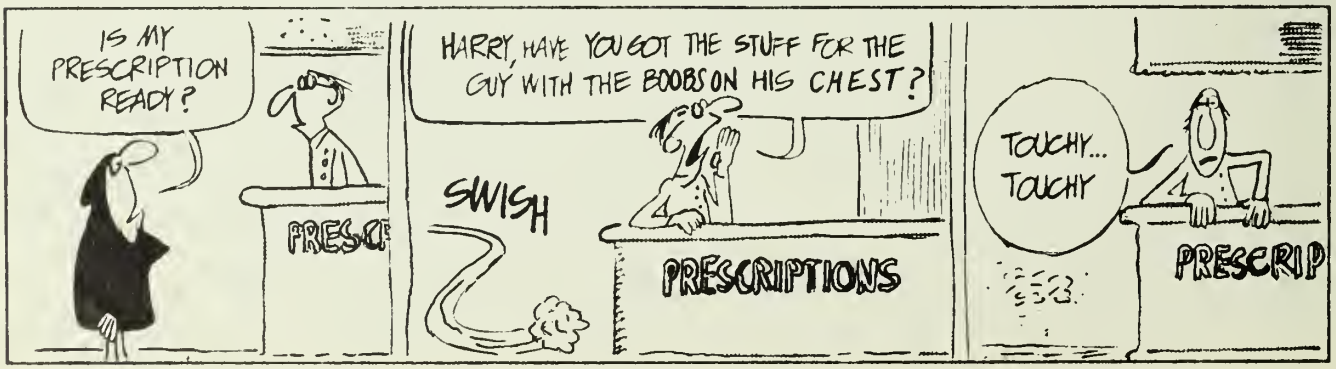

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and as a result I am for the first time happy and mentally content.

True, I cannot experience the emotions of a woman that are directly related to her menstrual cycle and the ability to bear children, but I am able to be a feminine person through intense acceptance and understanding of my feminine desires.

Acceptance! We frequently discuss it and hope for it from society, but the most important acceptance and the one that has to come first is the acceptance of oneself. "I Am What I Am" is the title song from "La Cage Aux Folles" and that is exactly our situation.

We are not going to change, we don't want to change, therefore, we must accept ourselves for us to attain inner peace and contentment. Those ladies who have done so know what I mean and their inner peace and contentment shows.

I am what I am, and proud of it!

* * * * * * * * * *

WHY CAN'T A WOMAN BE MORE LIKE A MAN?

Rex Harrison sang those words in "My Fair Lady". It was accepted as most suggestions regarding females being more like men. Women's liberation has resulted in females doing things that were previously considered 'male' in jobs, social life and speech. It is all perfectly acceptable in our society.

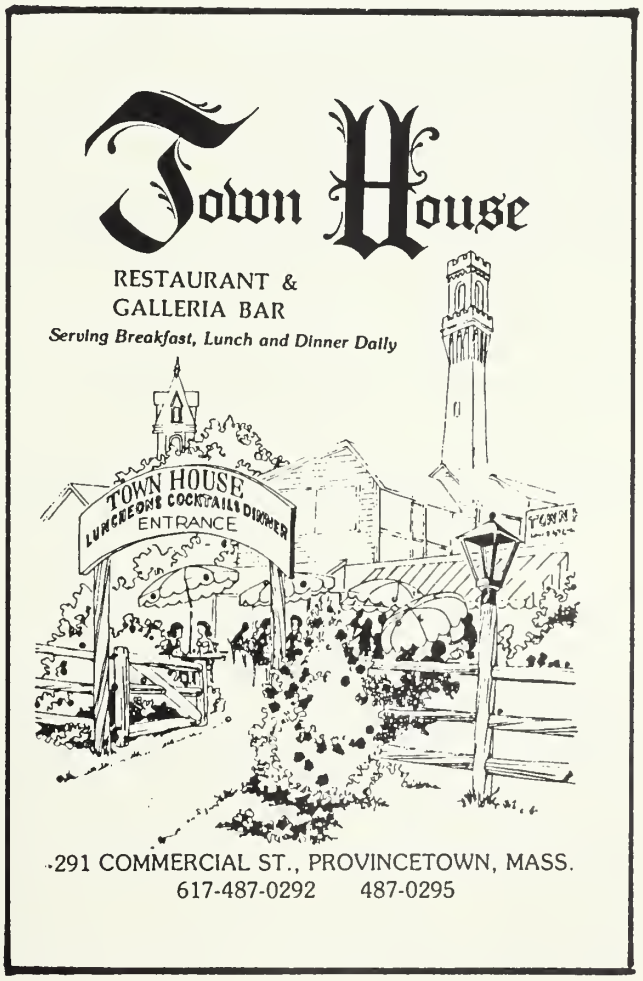
However, can you imagine the situation in reverse? "Why Can't A Man Be More Like A Woman?" Horrors, that simply is not acceptable. Women imitate men or adopt male manners, jobs, dress or speech but never, never the opposite. Why?

The answer lies in our society's accepted definition of masculine and feminine. For one to be masculine, one cannot be feminine in any shape or form. Feminine characteristics in a male result in him being considered effeminate. There is no feminine equivalent to effeminate because masculine characteristics in a female are not considered a problem.

In my opinion, our definition or standards for being male do not permit any female characteristics whatsoever. However, a person can be female and have male characteristics without losing her femininity. This unfortunate situation is why males and females find it so difficult to accept and understand us. We violate social norms that have been ingrained over a lifetime. Males cannot be females nor have any female characteristics. That is the way it is.

Yet, we persevere because we are what we are. We aren't and can't change. what about society? Society is not very flexible either. Therefore, the compromise is: Don't understand us, just leave us alone to do our thing. If we can get society to let us be ourselves, life will be better for all.

- END -



POETRY

VERMONT
by Michael Bradley

White as the clear spring sun
On first waking
Cunning eyelet lace in furls
Raised characters form a tale
In unintelligible braille
Yet ineffably moving, to make
Hale lusty men sink into themselves,
implode
And weep like little boys, like little
girls,
In plentiful furls about the nike arch
Of my extended throat
And at my wrist-like waist
To form a wafting skirt in miniature,
and where my arms would be
But bound to my body
Like Lactating breasts,
Trying to embrace myself
Safe from the lacerations
And bruises some incur
When jutting, chopping like
The conductor of a ballet.
And in between, ensconced and safe
Within the white, impossibly clean
white
Sheen, redoubt reinforced by the
invisible
Polished bones of earth's
Greatest mammal, requiring a strong
hand
Either woman's or man's
Myself in essence
Breathless, safe, constrained, secure.

About my nether limbs
More lacy white
An opulence of sensuous furls
A flag where dwells unfeigned al-
legiance
Swirls in a ballet not quite dependent
On my body for its grace

The conflict flares
And roars about me
Men rage
The brave, the strong
The canny and the wise
But I am safe, am
Proof against participation
Knees kissing 'neath the ruffles
I am the solace, the prize.

- END -

(**** The following article by B.J. Seymour, a Portland social worker and theater director, was published in the 'In My Opinion' section of 'The Oregonian' newspaper as a result of working directly with members of the Northwest Gender Alliance. Those who wish to respond to this article may do so by writing: NWGA, Box 13173, Portland, OR 97213)

CROSSDRESSING USEFUL, THERAPEUTIC
'In My Opinion'
by B.J. Seymour

Male actors in female roles: classic theater, offbeat therapy or an expanded understanding of everybody's personality?

The answer is all three. For the five or six men who meet regularly to read scenes from Clare Boothe Luce's all-female play, "The Women," their sessions are as much therapy as theater. Dressed for the roles they portray, they accept the acting of women's roles as a needed way to express the feminine side of their personalities.

Personality is multifaceted. There is nothing very original about that: The idea that each person plays a variety of parts in one's lifetime goes back at least to Shakespeare, and acting a role different from one's everyday routine offers a chance to explore elements of the self that otherwise would have no chance to come to the surface.

More specifically, each person has both masculine and feminine elements of his or her personality, and this culture does not offer nearly enough leeway for expressing them fully. That is not to say there has not been progress. The feminist movement has gained acceptability for assertiveness

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in women and for some increase in emotional expressiveness in men - it is even OK for men to cry now and then - but the notion of how real men are supposed to behave is still pretty rigid.

Ironically, while women have been victims of gender inequalities in the workplace, men have faced comparable inequalities with regard to self-expression. Women who are discriminated against can speak out, demanding change - I have done that myself. Men who face a much subtler form of discrimination are not wholly free even to talk about it. The man who wants to examine feminine feelings from the inside, by assuming a female role on occasion, stays in the closet for fear of ridicule or worse.

One's identity as male or female goes right to the core of each person's feelings about self. When masculinity or femininity is threatened, a person feels incomplete, unacceptable.

Loss of body parts or social roles identified with sexuality have powerful emotional impact: The woman who undergoes hysterectomy or mastectomy and the man who finds himself impotent often see themselves as something less than whole persons. Even symbolic losses of male or female roles - the empty nest syndrome for women or the loss of breadwinner status for the man - can be devastating to one's sense of self-worth.

It is small wonder, then, that men feel uneasy about an impulse to explore feminine elements in their emotional makeup.

Clothes, despite variations in fashion in different parts of the world or different periods of history, are an important element in gender identity, especially for men. Women can wear pantsuits, even with vests and neckties, in a variety of social settings. But if a man wears a skirt, it had better be plaid and he had better be playing bagpipes.

It is therapeutic for people to explore all aspects of their own personalities in a non-threatening atmosphere. It adds an extra dimension to understanding of self and deepens the capacity for empathy. Developing a capacity to understand and be comfortable with one's whole self is the basic goal of any psychotherapy.

That is why I will be on the scene, using the skills I picked up while directing plays at Salem's Pentacle Theater along with those skills learned in social work school, when those men get together, all dressed up, to read "The Women." I am teaching them to play the roles believably so that they can be their whole selves without getting into trouble.

The problem is, my acceptance is not enough. For all their deepened self-knowledge, it is hard to be altogether comfortable when the community puts a stigma on cross-dressing. A lot of other people with the same needs have not come out of the closet as far as members of this group have.

Most of the others with the same needs probably think they are alone. They need to know they are not. And they need a whole lot of public understanding - from people who may never have identified any of those impulses in themselves - to let them come out of that closet.

These people are heterosexuals with wives and children and regular jobs. But when individuals try to learn about sexual minorities and to accept differences, they should consider others who may have more in common with them than they have been inclined to acknowledge.

- END -

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WIVES TALKING TO WIVES

Dear Editor:

As a TV's wife searching for answers, I have arrived at a theory which I would like to share with your readers. My theory involves a TV's maturation process, and its effect on marriage.

The scenario develops in this manner:

As a young child, the TV is denied an emotional need & learns to turn inward to supply that need.

As the TV matures the self-providing of the need develops into a pattern of habit.

When the TV marries, instead of turning to his wife to fulfill his emotional needs, he still - out of habit - turns to himself as a source of comfort, not sharing some needs with his wife.

She then feels rejection, or incompletion, and wonders, "What's wrong with me? Why can't I fill his needs?"

This scenario can be expanded to encompass sexual, emotional, communicative, or other 'needs'.

In other words, -conditioned response.

I would be interested in reading the thoughts and feelings of other wives.

Sincerely, J.L.

THE NEED FOR ACCEPTANCE AS A WOMAN, OR AT LEAST OF LIFESTYLE ACCEPTANCE. ONE PERSON'S PERSONAL ACCOUNT.

by Micheline Johnson

I have always felt the need for at least partial acceptance as a woman. A strict upbringing in an all boy's boarding school in the 1945-52 era caused me to suppress these needs until about age 30. School plays, as in Shakespeare's day, were done with boys in the female roles. I recall being envious of those students who had the courage to take these parts. Later, when I encountered women, I became envious of them. Women, I discovered, were generally considerate and sensitive, and not aggressive. I enjoyed their company rather than that of the men who liked to drink together in bars.

As the years passed I gradually overcame the pressures to role-play as a man, and discovered the feminine 'me' beneath that masculine facade. I continued to associate with women, and assumed that I was something akin to a lesbian. (One of the most satisfactory periods of my life was when living with a lesbian - but she fell in love with a pretty young girl, and deserted me for her.)

In relationships with 'straight' women, because of their needs, they would naturally try and direct me back to the male role. With some, in order to please them, I would even try to do that. But, I could only supress my own needs for so long, and eventually my own needs dominated - and the affair failed.

Because of continual failure of such affairs, I went through many years of suppressing the natural need for companionship. (I became very busy with lots of activities - bought a home computer, and became an active member of at least three computer clubs and an electric vehicle club.) That supression did not work, so to find companionship I began to go dancing.

I had always enjoyed dancing as a way to express my feelings. Externally I was 'Mike', but internally I was always 'Micheline', and people would refuse to dance with me because of my dancing style. I learned all about rejection. (At one place in Ottawa I was turned down 16 consecutive times.)

During those years I had always assumed that my only chance for a dancing partner was with a woman, and that I would not be accepted as a woman amongst men. Therefore, I would usually go to dances dressed more or less as a man, or at least in unisex type clothes. Women (in the less macho type places) would dance with me, but were not interested in friendship afterwards.

Friendship with women gradually began to become less important. I would go to dances purely for the dancing and the relaxation. I would

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dress more and more the way I felt comfortable, rather than the way with which I assumed women partners would feel comfortable.

Because of physical constraints, I assumed that I would never be able to pass all the time as a woman, and that the best compromise with this reality was the acceptance by as many people as possible of a lifestyle with which I was comfortable, even though many of them recognized the reality.

I have found this acceptance amongst relatives and friends, amongst neighbors in the various places I have lived in and near Ottawa, and at the church I attended (especially from the longer term members who have seen the gradual transformation from 'Mike' to 'Micheline'). I have also found acceptance by the owners and staff of a restaurant in Ottawa, and most of their adult customers most of the time. (From time to time I did hear an odd comment indicating recognition, but acceptance none-the-less.)

There have been exceptions of course. One notable one was at the restaurant mentioned above. In the early morning hours (2 a.m.), the restaurant was filled with rowdy young people, many of them drunk. Half the restaurant stood up and began jeering at me. I decided it was not a good night to stay! Apart from that incident, most people have been polite enough, even if I had been read, not to draw attention to the fact.

After several years of being without close friends, in a gender "no-person's land", the need for companionship and an object of affection was reawakened. I began trying various ways of meeting people, with some interesting results.

For years, I have been accustomed to hitch-hiking to places when I have been unable to drive. (That is not a way to make lasting friendships, but it does let you gain confidence, and meet some interesting people.) I hitch-hiked regularly to Montreal to visit friends. More recently I went to visit friends in Wayland Massachusetts, when my car broke down in New Hampshire. The following weekend I hitch-hiked to the Montreal airport, flew to Boston, then hitch-hiked to New Hampshire. A few of my rides were of the hair-raising variety, but for the most part I met very nice people who accepted me as a woman.

I tried meeting people by going to straight singles dances. One club ("La Romantica") was very classy, large and beautifully decorated (chandeliers, the whole bit), but not very well known. Not knowing who would accept me as a dancing partner, I decided to play it ambiguously, and wear unisex clothing. To my surprise, and for the first time, three men in succession asked me to dance. This was a straight place, not a gay bar. I did not think I looked particularly like a woman. I was not wearing make-up, and I was flat chested. After getting over the shock, I thought "What the hell," and agreed to dance.

The following week I went to the same place, dressed in the same manner, and a very attractive man asked me to dance, then asked again, and again. After getting over some initial nervousness, I found I liked it. He was obviously accepting me as a woman.

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During the ensuing weeks we became close, and I developed a strong desire to be with him. Eventually he wanted to take me home and it became necessary to tell him that we would not be able to have sex together, and why. Up until that time he had completely accepted me as a woman, and to tell him was very disappointing for him and painful for me.

It thus seemed that with certain people I could be fully accepted as a woman. That was confirmed in the following weeks as a result of other such encounters. Generally, I could hope for greater success with people who would not normally have come across TSs (or whatever) before, especially country or older folk.

Recently the management of 'La Romantica' became aware of what I was and informed me I was not the sort of customer they had in mind. They barred me. Presumably, the other singles establishments will sooner or later bar me as well. This is obviously not an ideal way for a person in my situation to meet people. However, it has served a useful purpose for me in that it has made me aware of the possibilities. I am not restricted in my relationships to lesbians and sympathetic women.

I am now trying newspaper "companions" ads as a medium for meeting someone. I'll be interested to see if anyone responds.

- END -

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HUMOR

AUNT BERTHA'S BLOOMERS & ROOMERS RETURNS

Dear Readers:

Aunt Bertha has been absent from our columns for some time while traveling on a grant from the AAOA (the Academy of Outrageous Attire). Returning now after researching the cross-dressing habits of our cherished nation from Cupertino to Cape Cod and from Niagara Falls to Key West, she is ready once again to answer your questions. (Ed. Note: Aunt Bertha was so profoundly influenced by her findings abroad in America that she has purged her entire wardrobe save her beloved argyles and flour sack dresses - which may someday be collectors' items.)

The first question, please!

Dear Aunt Bertha:

I thought the controversy of whether to go braless or not was long dead. But, lo and behold, the question popped up again at our TV chapter meeting the other night. Many of our members, like me, are very flat chested and were somewhat embarrassed to discuss the matter at all. Others took a political stance and cited the glories and goals of the women's movement. Somebody pointed out that one of the vice-presidential candidates this year was known to wear a bra while the other has completely eschewed the garment. What are your views, Bertha?

- Flat Top

Dear Flat-top:

I don't mean to give the impression that this issue is over inflated, but... I should think a TV club would have something better to do than bring into question one of the very foundations of our being - namely, the bra. Brassiere manufacturers need all the help they can get these days and I don't know any self-respecting cross-dresser who isn't supporting the garments industry to the tune of about twenty bras. So go out there and buy a

new one today, for yourself or for a friend. It'll give you a lift.

Dear Aunt Bertha:

I started cross-dressing when I was a little tyke, wearing mainly hand-me-downs from my older sisters. My folks were fairly permissive and even backed me up when I wanted to play field hockey with the girls in school. The coach said it would be all right as long as I wore the kilted skirt team uniform. I didn't fight the ruling. Now I am in a new setting - college - and feel a bit lost. How can I meet other TVs in my area?

- Stubble-faced Co-ed

Dear Stubby:

I don't know much about your area - Boston - but I've heard via the grapevine that there's an informal group called the "Combat Zone" that meets almost every evening. Good luck to you.

Dear Aunt Bertha:

Most people write into you asking for advice regarding their problems. But, I am one of that rare breed of perfectly adjusted TVs who have no problems. However, I would like to comment on your recent appearance on the Phil Donahue Show from Chicago. You were magnificent in you Queen's own Argyle Highlander outfit. And your answer as to what Scotsmen wear under their kilts really devastated that sedate mid-western studio audience. Wow! I'll remember that the next time the teeny-boppers read me in the shopping mall. Well, keep up the good work, Bertha, and carry forward our banner which says "A TV on TV is worth two in the closet."

- Miss Ann Thrope
Petticoat Junction

Dear Misanthrope:

Your letter touched my heart. I have dedicated my life to elevating our station in life and I'm glad you appreciate all my efforts. And, remember, keep those cards and donations coming in - a $100.00 donation will entitle you to a beautiful 8"X10" color photo of me, personally autographed. These donations will some day enable us to build the TV Crystal Palace - a project mery dear to me, a place where all of you will be welcome to pay homage to me.

Dear Aunt Bertha:

As a leader in the frozen food field and one of the major producers of TV dinners I must object strenuously to you userpation of the term "TV". You are giving us a bad name and seriously hurting our profit picture.

- 'Hungry Man' Swanson

Dear Hungry:

Our collective heart bleeds for you. But if you want to address the issue of cross-dressing I will be glad to meet you in a public debate. Meanwhile our TV club will refrain from serving TV dinners at our annual banquet.

(** Aunt Bertha is at her best when she has a good selection of letters and questions to which she can respond. Send in your letters and questions. Aunt Bertha will consider anything - and we do mean anything. Aunt Bertha, c/o Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778)

"A strange thing happened on the way home this evening."

A TV NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

by
Sharon Anne Stuart

T'was the night before Christmas and all through my place
Not a petticoat stirred, not even the lace
While snug in my nightgown, like every TV
I dreamt of the girl that's really me.

My hose, full of runs, were strung up with care
In the hopes that St. Nick would bring me six pair
My wigs were pinned secure on their blocks
As visions in ruffles danced 'neath my locks.

Then just after midnight there came a loud clatter
And I woke with a start to the sharp pitter-patter
Of high heeled boots on my snow covered drive
And I sprang out of bed to see what was outside.

Away to the window I flew like a flash
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash
The moon on the breast of the new fallen snow
Gave a lustre of midday to objects below.

When what to my wondering eyes should appear
But a miniature sleigh and eight tiny reindeer
And the driver, a little old woman, lively and quick
I thought to myself: can this be St. Nick?

With the skill of a man she moved round the sleigh
Adjusting the harness and singing away
Now Dasha, stay Dancer, hold Prancer and Vickie
Move Cometa, Cupida, Dondra and Blitzie

Rudolph's at home awaiting you girls
So let's be our best: keep your tails in curls
Then in a flash she was back in her seat
And a flick of her whip brought them all to their feet.

As dry leaves fly before the wind and storm
The reindeer and sleigh rose up past my dorm
And on to the roof her coursers they flew
With a sleigh full of fashions and Ms. Nicholas too.

And then in a twinkling I heard on the roof
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof
As I drew in my head and was turning around
Down the chimney Ms. Nicholas came with a bound.

And the huge leather pack slung over her shoulder
Came crashing behind like a runaway boulder
My visage must have expressed some alarm
But a wink of her eye and a wave of her arm

Soon gave me to know there was nothing to dread
She was charm from her boots to the cap 'top her head
All dressed in a tunic that skimmed round her knees
Fur trimmed red velvet, as pert as you please!

And the hair on her head was as white as the snow
Tied up in a bun with a red velvet bow
Her cheeks were like roses, her mouth like a cherry
Her eyes how they twinkled! Her dimples how merry!

She spoke not a word but went straight to her pack
And pulled from its innards a Hanes box from Saks
Then two pairs of shoes and a purse to clutch
And a lovely fur coat; it was really too much.

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My heart jumped for joy and I wanted to shout
And I took Ms. Nicholas and danced her about
Thank you, said I, for the Hanes, shoes, and coat
But whilst I was speaking she passed me a note.
It was edged round in lace on paper of pink
And its message made my tired eyes blink
"TO THE BEARER; A FREE WEEK AT DREAM ON THE OREGON COAST,
WITH GLORIA, MARILYN, AND A SALMON ROAST."

"AND RUBY AND LINDA AND HEATHER, et al
CLASSES ON MAKE-UP AND FASHIONS FOR FALL,
AND RUSTY TO TEACH YOU WHAT CLOTHES TO WEAR
AND PATTI TO SHOW HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR HAIR."

How could she know this most secret desire?
And I gave her a kiss as we stood by the fire.
She laughed and rapidly powdered her nose
And then with a swish up the chimney she rose.

And sprang to her sleigh, to her team gave a whistle
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle
But I heard her exclaim as she drove out of sight
Merry Christmas to all, and to all a Good Night!

- END -

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The Morning After

Fiction: by Merissa Sherrill Lynn

Donna was having a little difficulty motivating herself to get out of bed, so I took her a black cup of Morning Thunder tea. (I use Morning Thunder to clean out my car radiator. If it revived my radiator, it would revive Donna.) While I waited for my little cup of witch's brew to do its thing, I took a short walk.

As I walked a flight of geese honked their way across the sky, heading south for the winter. The air was crisp and cool, and the dew sparkled in the early morning sunlight. It was an invigorating morning, fresh and alive. I began humming a John Denver melody, a melody that Donna and I often sang together: "And the wind will whisper your name to me - Tell me of the joy that is mine - And the leaves will bow down as you walk by - And morning bells will chime." It was a delightful melody, warm and loving, just right for the way I felt.

Then I noticed the sunlight touching a lonely maple tree, resplendent in autumn colors. I paused, and thought to myself, "God... How beautiful!"

I thought how much like that tree Donna and I were... As different as the tree was from the other trees, so Donna and I were from other people (I was a transvestite and she was a lesbian)... and yet in our unique way, so natural. I reflected upon our relationship and how it evolved; then remembered back to the incident that led to our meeting.

It happened on a warm spring night three years ago. I was cross-dressed, out for a night on the town. Perhaps, now that I think about it, I was a bit showy; a lot of make-up, a gorgeous black-sequined strapless dress, and a Marilyn Monroe blonde wig. But, at the time I thought I looked very passible, and expected no trouble. The bars had closed and I was returning to my car when I felt a heavy hand grab my arm. I was spun around and caught a glimpse of three young black men, all bigger than myself, unshaven, one sporting a thick wet moustache, stinking of booze and marijuana. "Hey," one of them sneered, "look at the pretty faggot!" There were cat-whistles, and two of them made jestures as though they were masterbating.

I was overwhelmed with a fear I had never known before, and began to fight to free myself. I struggled until I felt a crushing blow to my head. My senses went numb, and a chorus of jeers and laughter surrounded me, "What's the matter faggot, you don't like black men?" "Fucking queer!" I was being thrown around, and beaten, and taunted, and beaten again. In my dizzying state I was barely aware that they had ripped off my clothing and straddled my body across a park bench. I heard one of them say, "Here bitch, I got somethin' for ya!" Then I felt an excruciating pain in my abdomen. Oh my God, I was being RAPED! I started to vomit. I tried to scream but my vomit choked me, and then I passed out...I think... I don't remember.

I do remember lying in a hospital emergency ward with doctors and nurses scurrying around trying to look so professional, yet each with their opinions etched in their faces. I also

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remember the cops, two of them, dressed in plaid sport coats, looking more like prep school football coaches than cops.

The doctors and nurses - with their opinions etched in their faces....

I also remember answering their questions: "No, Carolyn is my femme name, and David is my legal name." "Yes I'm a transvestite." "No I'm not a hooker. I'm not even gay." "I was in the gay bars because I don't have any place else to go." "I dress this way because I like to." "No I'm not a hooker." And on it went; embarassing degrading questions. My body ached to my soul. I had been beaten and raped, and these police officers were treating me like so much trash, as though they thought I deserved what I got. I hated them; I hated the doctors and nurses and their insipid opinions. I wanted to fight out, to hurt them, to scream. I felt defiled and dirty, as though I was no longer a human being.

The weeks that followed were the worst of my life. Many of my dearest friends were black people, yet I couldn't look at them without being overwhelmed with rage. I began to hate everyone - - especially myself. I had no will to live, and began to think seriously of suicide. Never in my life had I ever felt so low that I considered killing myself. I became terrified, afraid that I might actually do it. In desperation, I sought out an alternative lifestyle rap-group, a group that would accept me for who and what I was, and would listen.

For the first three sessions I couldn't bring myself to tell my story, but it was comforting to listen to others. Finally the moderator, a woman in her late thirties, whose look and manner reminded me of my '60s hippy days - which was in itself comforting, coaxed me into telling my story. As I talked I became furious, broke into uncontrollable tears while beating my leg with my fist, and repeatedly choked out the words, "Those bastards... Those bastards."

I became silent - my body heaving for breath, and buried my face in my hands. After several minutes I was able to regain control of myself, took a deep breath, mustered what was left of my self-respect, lifted my face from my tear-drenched hands, and looked about me. I saw compassion and understanding. Being a product of a 'be-a-man-and-big-boys-don't-cry' upbringing, I was suprised, and unbelievably relieved. No one had ever treated me with compassion and understanding. Then a feminine voice, soft and sincere, said, "I was raped too."

I saw compassion and understanding. No one ever treated me with compassion and understanding.

The woman who spoke was husky, decidedy masculine, with a short androgynous hair style, no make-up, wearing a light blue workshirt, a denim vest, faded dungarees, and dunham work boots. She sat in her chair like a trucker, yet, in her way she was very attractive. It was easy to see with a little effort she could be a very beautiful woman. I immediately felt a sensation of warmth for her. She introduced herself as Donna.

Donna began telling her story. She was a product of a broken home, a gentle but increasingly bitter mother, and an alcoholic father. When she was 13 she was at a beach party and gang-raped by a group of toughs who had crashed the party. She found herself fearful of boys, and increasingly found comfort in the company of other girls. Fearing she may be lesbian, she tried marriage. She was totally unable to be a wife to him, and her marriage soon ended in divorce. She gave up trying to be a 'normal woman', gave in to her natural masculinity, and adopted a lesbian lifestyle. As she talked it became obvious the deep and terrible hurt with which she had to live, the humiliation, the degradation, the fear, and the confusion about who and what she was. For the first time in many weeks I began to feel empathy for another human being.

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After the rap session Donna invited me to have a cup of coffee with her. My enthusiasm may have been a little obvious when I practically shouted, "I'd love to," then tripped over the chair, but she was kind enough not to notice. We went to the Harvard House, a quiet lounge nearby, and had a wonderful conversation. We talked.... and talked.... and talked! She seemed to need someone to talk to as much as I did. We talked about our mutual love for the wilderness, and how, in our own ways, were able to find peace and happiness midst the trees and the flowers and the birds. We talked about our mutual love for good toe-tappin' country music, and broke into an impromptu concert of good old tunes like 'Mountain Dew' and 'Where Have All The Flowers Gone'. Donna and I became friends.

She was a female of questionable sexual persuasion, and Iwas a male of questionable gender persuasion. We made a remarkable couple.

Donna and I became more than friends. Neither one of us had ever met anyone like either of us before. She was a female who accepted me, and I was a male who accepted her. She was a female of questionable sexual persuasion, and I was a male of questionable gender persuasion. She was tall (about 5'9"), broad shouldered, short hair, and liked to wear pants. I was short (about 5'9"), soft features, long hair, and liked to wear dresses. We made a remarkable couple. Perhaps it was our uniqueness that made us compatible, or because we had so many interests in common, or because we had both suffered a similar abuse at the hands of others. Whatever the reason - we were compatible, and that compatibility became increasingly important to us both.

In those early days of our relationship we went for a lot of long walks, did a lot of hugging, and crying, and seemed to go out of our way to be a comfort to each other. Then one day in September, she asked to meet 'Carolyn' (my femme self), and suggested we go out to dinner together as two women. I hadn't cross-dressed since I was raped, and although I deeply missed being Carolyn, I still felt a mixture of fear and anger. Perhaps Donna knew that, and knew it was time to overcome my fear. I agreed.

I also knew it was time to change my femme image. I had always looked like a drag queen (overly made-up, into a high-glamour look). After all, I learned my skills from the queens, and my social activities were usually in bars where everybody looked like drag queens. Donna was a dear and important friend and I wanted her to be comfortable with Carolyn. Also, we were going to dinner, not to a drag ball. Also, for self-defense reasons, I wanted 'Carolyn' to be more passable. (I don't believe I could have survived another attack like the last one.)

For the first time in many months I began to feel excited. With a giddy happiness I went on a shopping spree in, of all places, Sears. (It was very different than the transvestite boutiques and Centurian catalogs I was used to.) I went bouncing into the women's apparel department, strolled up to the floor manager, and said, "HI!"

The startled floor manager, a fifth grade teacher-type, turned, stared for a moment then said, "Yes?"

"Yes what?"

"Yes can I help you?"

"Oh sure!"

"Well?"

"Oh.... I want to buy a complete wardrobe.... It's for me!"

I looked so happy she couldn't possibly say no. She looked me over a few times, looked around to see if anyone was watching, raised both her hands shoulder high, held them there for a moment, then clapped them together and said, "No problem. Do you know your sizes and what you would like?"

I started counting on my fingers, "I'm a 16 top, 14 bottom, my... ah.... chest is a size 38, and I wear a size 10 shoe. I would like a nice jacket, matching slacks, skirts and blouses, a few things to wear during the day, something to wear out at night, and shoes to match. I also need a handbag,

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and if there's anything else you can think of...." I hadn't bought anything for Carolyn in many months, and Carolyn was about to have her revenge.

The saleslady's name was Ruth. Ruth and I had a party. When it was time to leave, Ruth confided to me, "I wish all my customers were as nice as you. Have a nice time dear, and come back anytime." We clasped hands, exchanged thanks, and I left, feeling that life was once more worth living.

My next stop was at Flo's, a wig specialist/cosmetologist acquaintance of mine. I never went to Flo before. She was, after all, 'straight'. What did she know about drag queens? She knew nothing about drag queens, but she did know how to make a woman look like a lady, and that's exactly what I wanted. Flo took my make-up case (a fishing tackle box crammed with virtually every piece of make-up I ever bought) and began throwing. My clown white was gone, as was my pan stick. She threw out my fingernail polish (some of which had turned green and dried in the bottle). She threw out my six or seven sets of inch-long lashes and tube of adhesive which had sprung a leak and stuck to the make-up case. She threw everything out, then said, "OK, let's see what we can use.... Nothing!" Of COURSE nothing! She threw everything away!

"Now let's see your wigs."

"OH NO YOU DON'T!" I suddenly became verrrry protective of my wigs.

She laughed. "Your hair's long enough. We'll use that." I threw my arms protectively over my hair. "Trust me!" I didn't trust her....but that didn't stop her.

She resupplied me with new make-up and gave me a lesson on how to use it. Then she styled my hair. As she worked I saw a new 'Carolyn' emerge, an attractive and dignified lady. I felt myself falling a little bit in love with myself, and also felt myself becoming sexually aroused. I couldn't tell Flo I was turning myself on, so I tried to conceal my pleasure the best I could. There I was, saying, "Yes, yes, that does look better, uh-huh, I understand, yup...." while thinking, "Oh God, ... let me out of here before I have an orgasm!"

I saw a new 'Carolyn' emerge. It felt wonderful to look in the mirror and feel good about myself again.

Flo was sly. She knew what was going on, but she wasn't going to let me know that. She enjoyed watching me squirm.

When she was done I saw a new Carolyn, a new person with a new look, and a new sense of pride. It felt wonderful to look in the mirror and feel good about myself again. I couldn't wait to see Donna.

When I left Flo's to drive to Donna's, I felt wonderful. Ten minutes later I couldn't stop myself from

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thinking about the attack. My hands went cold, and I began to shake. By the time I reached Donna's, I was hallucinating with fear. I saw imaginary attackers leaning against the lamp post and hiding in the shadows. I couldn't move! It was as though I knew bricks and rocks were going to come flying through my windshield any minute.... thugs were going to swarm over me.... and I was going to re-live all that pain once again. I couldn't survive it again, I couldn't.....

I saw imaginary attackers lurking in the shadows. I was hallucinating with fear.

There was a rap on my window! A deep cry broke from my throat, and I nearly passed out. It was Donna. She saw my car drive up and waited for me. When I didn't leave the car, somehow she knew I was in trouble - God bless her!

I calmed down enough to unlock the door. She entered the car and sat quietly beside me. "I'm sorry, I'm sorry," I kept saying. "I had a flashback and panicked."

She nodded. "I've been having flashbacks for 20 years," she said quietly as she took my hand.

Slowly I calmed down enough to notice she was wearing a skirt and blouse, and even some make-up. It was the first time I had ever seen her dressed up. I looked at her, she looked at me, then as if by some cosmic cue we both blurted out, "You're beautiful!" We both laughed at the same time, then as if by the same cue, "Thank you!" We both laughed again.

"You're more more beautiful than I am," I said.

"No I'm not!"

"Yes you are!"

"OK, I am. But I'm really not."

"We're both beautiful. Let's go to dinner."

"OK!" Donna had made reservations at 'The Courtier', a restaurant owned by a gay couple we met at the rap group. When we arrived, Robert, one of the owners, greeted us at the door. He recognized Donna, but not me. Donna introduced Robert to 'Carolyn', and we exchanged pleasantries. As we were escorted to our table Robert's steps became slower.... and slower...., until he stopped, turned, looked me in the eye, and elsewhere, then without making a sound mouthed, "David?" Without making a sound, I nodded.

Then silently but with great emphasis he exclaimed, "You're absolutely lovely! How good to see you!" He turned and winked at Donna, "You're right, this is special." I looked at Donna. Donna shrugged.

We were escorted to what had to have been the best table in the restaurant, private, leather cushioned seats, with an elegant little tiffany lamp overhead. Peter, the other owner, then emerged from the kitchen, came to our table and we exchanged pleasantries; 'You both look so lovely,' - 'Oh thank you, and what a beautiful restaurant,' - 'Well thank you for coming,' - 'Your welcome, and thank you for having us' - 'Your always welcome,' - 'Oh thank you.' "Would you like to see a menu?" I thought he would never ask.

A delicate featured waiter dressed in a white ruffled shirt and a black bow tie brought the menu, an artist's sketch pad with the day's entrees (in French) written on it. He reviewed the menu, and tried to give us an explanation. We didn't have the vaguest idea what he was talking about, so he said, "This is good, and this is good." His recommendations sounded fine to us, so we ordered, and prepared ourselves for a fine meal (my first as Carolyn).

The memory of my earlier trauma was gone. I felt happy, and a little proud. Then Donna leaned toward me and somewhat sheepishly said, "I have something to tell you." Her tone was unexpected, but didn't imply she had anything bad to say. She hesitated for a moment, then continued, "You really are quite attractive you know." She hesitated again, and I nodded encouragement. "I'm..... I'm very attracted to you." My heart went right through the roof! I had wanted her since the day I met her, but I felt I could never tell her for fear of losing her friendship.

I wasn't sure I understood what I had heard. I just hoped I was right.

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Then I think I said something dumb, like, "Really?" She started to withdraw, so I hastily took her hand and drew her near me again. She was as nervous as I was.

She smiled and said, "Yeah really!" She then squeezed my hand and continued, "I've never met anyone that's been nicer to me than you. I don't like men, but I do like you; and to see you this way, well.... well.... I just really like you, and...." She had nothing more to say. But she had said plenty. I glanced at the roof to see if my heart was still up there. It was.

Tears began to well in my eyes, and I said, "I think my mascara's going to run!"

She laughed, and said, "So's mine. Let's go fix it." We went to the powder room together, the joy in me about to explode. In the powder room we were alone, and she kissed me. The tears just flowed.

"Now my mascara's really going to run!" I said, half laughing, half crying.

Donna burst out laughing. "I don't care - you're gorgeous!" It took us a good 15 minutes to regain our composure. By the time we made all the proper repairs and got back to our table, our dinner was ready. We weren't exactly sure what we were eating (I had some sort of fish with green things on it, and she had some sort of meat with red things on it), but whatever it was, was delicious.

"Tell me," Donna said, again sounding unsure of herself, "why didn't you ever get married?"

I knew my answer was going to be important, so I thought for a moment then said, "Well, obviously I don't fit very well into the 'Me Tarzan You Jane' role..."

"Right. You make a very nice Jane, but not a very good Tarzan."

"And.... I would rather not be married than be married to someone I shouldn't be married to." I hoped my answer was what she wanted. I hesitated, to see her reaction, then continued, "I am who and what I am.... have been all my life; will be for the rest of my life. I wasn't going to hide what I am just to play games, breed, and make society happy!"

Apparently I said the right thing, because she smiled her agreement, and said nothing.

I wasn't going to hide what I am just to play games, breed, and make society happy.

After dinner we said very little. For the months that followed we said very little, but felt ourselves drifting into a deep and lasting relationship. We fell in love.

Falling in love was not enough. We knew we had an attraction for each other, and we knew we were very happy together, but we didn't know why. We both knew that, given our past histories and our individual inclinations, if we did not know what bonded us, that bond would break. We were happy, but troubled.

If we did not know what bonded us, that bond would break. We were happy, but troubled.

It wasn't until a year after our relationship began that we learned. We went for a hike. It was a crisp clear October morning, and the dew sparkled in the sunlight. We were singing our favorite John Denver song 'For Baby' when we came upon a magnificent maple tree, resplendent in its autumn foliage, standing alone in a field. "Let's play a game - a gender game," I suggested.

"OK," she agreed, almost indifferently.

"I'll name everything I think is feminine about that tree, and you name everything you think is masculine."

She nodded her agreement. "You first!"

"The color is like a lady's cloak, adding beauty to the tree," I said.

"The trunk is thick and strong and supports the tree," she added.

"The leaves," I continued, " are like delicate ornaments, decorating the tree."

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"The roots anchor the tree, and keep it from destruction."

"The branches are long, and sway in the wind, giving the tree grace and poetry."

"The bark is rough and durable, protecting the tree from those that would harm it."

Both of us began to realize that something was happening; something imortant. Donna's hand grew tighter around mine. "The boughs of the tree," I continued, "embrace living creatures, mother's them and keeps them from harm."

Donna was deep in thought, her head slowly nodding up and down and side to side, as though she were solving a puzzle. "Let's see now.... the masculine roots draw the food and moisture that creates the feminine life-giving sap that is drawn up through the masculine trunk that is protected by the masculine bark that feed the feminine branches." Her voice quickened. " The feminine leaves feed on the sunlight which creates the food that filters down the feminine branches and feeds the masculine trunk and roots...." She hesitated, then looked at me. "You know - it's just a tree!" she exclaimed. "It's not masculine - or feminine.!"

"Yes," I interrupted, "but take away either its masculinity or its femininity, and it will die."

"Like us!" she added.

"Like us!" I concluded.

How far we had come; two special people, abused and rejected by society, yet accepted by each other, and by Nature itself.

Donna interrupted my meditation. "Whoopie that tea was powerful. Wow, that's good stuff. Let's go for a hike."

- END -

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PERSONAL PROFILE

MRS. SHUFFLEWICK
by Merissa Sherrill Lynn

Some members of our Community are beautiful head-to-toe and through and through. Some are just beautiful through and through. Then there is Mrs. Shufflewick.

Mrs. Shufflewick is special. She is a caricature, invented in England (the British version of Flip Wilson's 'Geraldine'), and exported to the 'Colonies' by 'Auntie' Dorothy Finch from Vancouver, BC. Dorothy first introduced us to Mrs. Shufflewick during the Talent Show at Fantasia Fair '82.

Mrs. Shufflewick was a slightly inebriated cockney lass much younger than her years. She struggled onto the stage, took a healthy belt from her bottle of Gordon's London Extra Dry (neatly concealed in a crumpled paper bag), squinted her eyes to see who was in the audience, then joyously exclaimed,..." 'Allo my luvlies!" From that moment on the audience belonged to her.

As she told her story, the audience laughed. They laughed until the rafters shook and drink glasses spilled their contents. They laughed until their sides hurt and tears creased their cheeks. They knew, we all knew, we had just met someone very special.

A cult heroine was born; a free spirit revelling in life, thumbing her nose at a pompous society, yet maintaining a sense of dignity, a sense of pride, and an outrageous sense of humor. She was a caricature we could all enjoy, if not identify with. It was as though Mrs. Shufflewick was invented just for us. The United States had Uncle Sam, England had John Bull, and we had Mrs. Shufflewick.

Sadly, after the Fair she disappeared into the wilds of Canada and became all but forgotten. Then, during the Tiffany Club's 1983 Spring Outing, Mrs. Shufflewick paid us a surprise visit. It was a lovely Sunday afternoon. The Outing participants had gathered on the Crown & Anchor's deck

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"'Allo my luvlies"

"...I was tyin' me shoelace at th' time."

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for a farewell party when Auntie Dorothy informed me she had a friend that would like to say " 'Allo!"

I rushed to Dorothy's room and to my delight there was Mrs. Shufflewick sitting on the edge of the bed with a hint of a mischievous smile on her lips, a twinkle in her slightly dilated eyes, and her ever-present bottle of Gordon's London Dry neatly concealed in a brand new hand crocheted 'purse'. I helped her to her feet. Being a bit of a toper the poor lass was none too steady, so I took her arm, escorted her down the hallway to the deck, and introduced her to the group. Those few who recognized her began to clap and cheer, while the others just silently stood there with dismayed looks on their faces. Mrs. Shufflewick sensed their consternation, lifted her 'purse' to her lips and took a good healthy belt. Then, with an air of aristocratic dignity, she let the purse hang from her wrist, trussed up her hair, leaned forward a little and joyously

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"This is it tonight Gladys, death or dishonor - then I thought, well, I'm not bleedin' dyin' yet!"

"There I stood - w' me foot in the ash can..."

"Ohh, a proper gen'leman 'e was..."

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exclaimed, " 'Allo, my luvlies!" The group belonged to her.

The result of her visit was the same as her appearance at Fantasia Fair. People laughed, cried, and held their sides, and everyone knew they had just met someone very special. How ever, this time there was a significant difference. Mrs. Shufflewick was not entertaining an audience, she was part of the group. A new feeling had evolved, a feeling that she was one of us.

Mrs. Shufflewick returned to Tiffany's Spring Outing in 1984. This time she returned not as a suprise guest, but as a welcomed participant. She visited a pajama party, and later visited Tiffany's residence. The result was the same; everyone felt happier, and richer for having met her.

That's the key; people felt happier, and richer for having met her. Mrs. Shufflewick (Auntie Dorothy) has a quality, a talent that so few people

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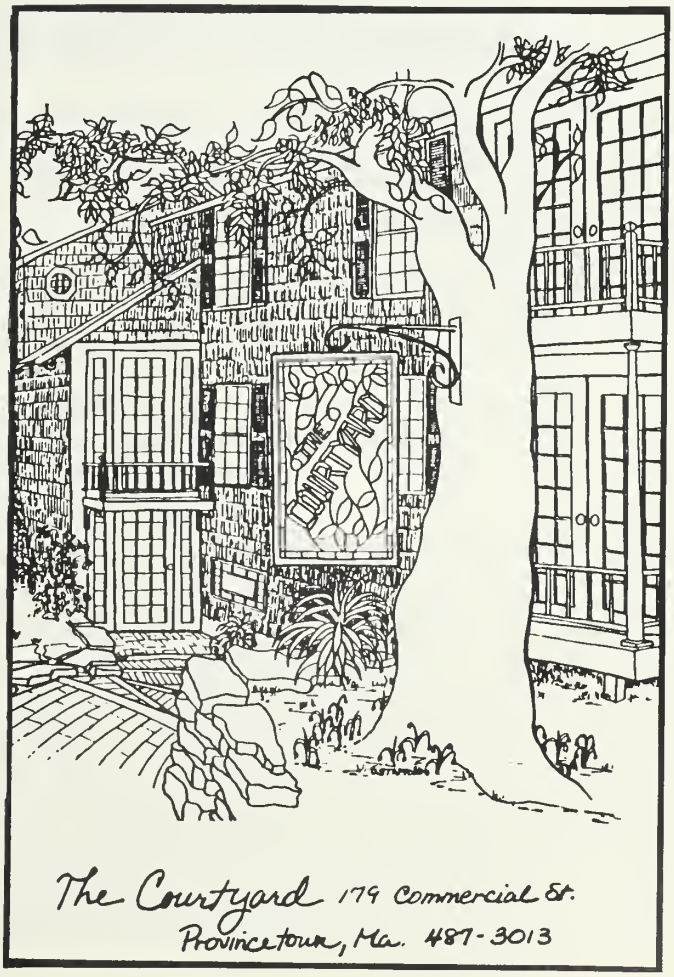
"Well, you'd think they'd never seen a naked woman on a bus before!"

"...I got the shock o' me life. I was on top o' the 29 bus..."



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have. She has a gift for helping people feel happy, and good about themselves, and most of all she enjoys helping people feel that way. She is a non-conformist in a conventional and intolerant world, yet she survives, with dignity and humor. Those of us who are TVs, or TSs, or whatever, are also non-conformists trying to survive. Mrs. Shufflewick has given us an irreplaceable gift, laughter with dignity, and a little pride in ourselves. Mrs. Shufflewick and Auntie Dorothy have become an irreplaceable part of our Community.

Auntie Dorothy stated that she was reluctant to perform 'Mrs. Shufflewick' for fear people would start getting sick of her. "Not bloody likely, Dearie!"

- END -

"Yes, I know. That's what I thought too."

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A TRUE STORY:

REPORT CARD:
SUBJECT: Intro to Country Swing
GRADE: Passed
by Julie Lewis (AZ)

Short, but steady and firm strides have been most characteristic of the manner in which I've been stepping out of the closet over the past few months. Gradually I have revealed 'Julie' to family and friends, including a moving and very positive therapy session with my visiting mother who prior to this revelation had no knowledge at all of my cross-dressing. For twenty-six years, since the age of seven, I had kept 'Julie' neatly tucked away, protecting her from all. I'm sure the roots and essence of me as 'Julie' stem well beyond the surfacing point when I was seven, so in preparing to reveal such a vital and substantial part of my life, I calculated Julie's appearance via discreet stages.

Recently, on a warm Saturday night, ... well, things happened which weren't at all characteristic of my expectations. Passing in a conservative, red-neck, country-swing bar on the outskirts of Phoenix, was by no means a discreet event.

Public outings while cross-dressed had always been confined, for me, to mostly driving about, either just cruising or going to or from therapy. Being just over six feet tall had always been a big mental hinderance when it came to passing. Other than Halloween parties, my public contact had been very limited indeed. I had always visioned breaking into the passing scene with mild events such as attending movies. What in the hell prompted me to hurdle beyond the movies and a lot more and land myself inside a RED-NECK bar on a Saturday night?

My luncheon date with Toby, a very dear and long-time friend, wasn't until Sunday noon, but feeling a strong need for a change of pace, I left Tucson and arrived in Mesa early Saturday afternoon. After checking into a Best Western, I phoned Toby. She informed

Julie Lewis (AZ-0588)

me of her evening plans at her favorite country-swing bar and extended an invitation to me to drop in if I made it by her way. With that offer the wheels began to turn as I imagined what her reaction might be if I were to stop by while cross-dressed. Through previous close and personal exchanges she knew of my 'other' side, but had yet to see me as Julie.

As evening approached, I toyed with the temptation from time to time, not really expecting much to come of it until soon after a metamorphosis and a photo session as Julie, I found myself on the road to Phoenix. As fate would have it, I hadn't much trouble in locating Toby's hang-out. I drove in but my courage faded and I left in search of an isolated public phone which I found a couple of minutes later.

As we conversed I dropped a couple of lines about not being dressed quite right for a red-neck atmosphere. She failed to pick-up on the hints so I

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finally told her point-blank that I was cross-dressed.

"Oh my God, you're kidding!!" she exclaimed, as her voice heightened with curiosity, "...Well come on over, I'd like to see you."

I agreed to meet in the parking lot. On the third round through the lot I finally spotted her coming out of the bar. At 5'10" plus, well-figured and very attractive, she wasn't hard to pick out. She opened the door, pausing briefly in disbelief before climbing in.

"You look gorgeous!", she began, "I mean you look REALLY GOOD! I don't believe it! You look as good if not better than I do." With a touch of mischievous twinkle in her eyes she added, "You've got to come in with me!"

"Ahhh shit!" I softly said to myself before replying, "Now wait a minute, Toby. This is a RED-NECK bar you're talking about! Let's go for a drive and talk about this."

On the surface I appreared apprehensive but underneath I was as excited as she about the prospects. To pass in an ultra-conservative bar on Saturday night ... WOW, wouldn't that be something.

"I'm impressed!", Toby began her appeal. "You look good! You CAN do IT! And what better time than now; you're with me; I have a lot of friends there who'll help me protect you if something goes wrong. and look, I'm tall too, and wearing heels, if you go in with me you won't stand out so much. We'll just be two tall women walking in together."

I didn't really need much coaching because I already possessed a burning desire to pull it off. But I wasn't so sure that her friends wouldn't lynch me if I were discovered. At last I agreed to a brief visit.

Heading back to the bar Toby began to say, "I don't even know what..." "Julie." I responded before she could finish her statement. "But Toby, please don't go out of your way to introduce me. If it's unavoidable, fine, but let's not make too much happen."

It was nearing midnight, seven hours since I had shaved; naturally I began to worry about my make-up. But with Toby's reassurance I found myself approaching the entrance. The facade was lined with bright neon lights which managed to cast a heavy shadow over my flickering flame of courage as it struggled to burn bright from within. Then we encountered the first hurdle, three men obstructing our path and arguing over a bar-room fight in which they participated earlier in the evening. My heart raced a bit as I passed face to face within arm's reach of one of the three. One of the other two, a friend of Toby's, grabbed Toby and detained her for a greeting and a hug. Slowly, I walked on toward the door attempting to pause long enough for Toby to catch up. She was taking much too long and not wanting to appear awkward or insecure, as casually as possible, I opened the door and walked in alone.

What was only a brief minute in "real-time" figures, took on the shape of half an eon in my mind. There I was standing alone clutching my purse with at least a half a dozen people from nearby tables glancing over to see who had just entered. One cowboy-type, seated next to the door, checked me out much closer than I felt comfortable with. I began to wonder if he was suspicious or just looking me over; his eyes showed no contempt or suspicion and he finished his viewing and turned back to the gal seated with him. Calmly I stood by the door waiting; at last Toby walked in.

With Toby beside me again and now having made it by the three outside and past the door glances, my confidence began to swell. For the first time I realized I actually could pass in a public place. We walked around the bar to the pool room where Toby had left her drink and cigarettes. She paused to sip her drink.

My confidence soon came under attack again as I imagined a scenario of being asked to dance. I'm not an accomplished dancer in either role and with the possibility of being asked growing ever more so with each moment I stayed, I soon turned to Toby and said, "I've got to be going. I'm too nervous to hang around much longer."

We strolled past the pool tables and through the exit. Near the door where we entered the three stood, still

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discussing their earlier adventure. Avoiding them and the bright lights we headed into the parking lot. As we walked toward my car we passed a woman who gave us a quick 'once-over' and continued on her way to the pay phone. Toby related to me how I was lucky that Kevin, one of the three by the door, hadn't pinched me on the ass as he frequently does with most women he comes in contact with.

The next day over lunch we discussed and laughed about the events surrounding my first serious attempt to "pass" in public and at a red-neck country-swing bar at that. She told me how Ray, a regular at the bar, asked her, "Where did your friend go? She didn't stay very long." (A matter of opinion, depending on whose shoes you were wearing -) "You know she's even bigger than you are."

To that Toby laughed and simply beamed back at all 5'4" of him, "Ray, to you most any woman is big."

In retrospect, I relate the experience to the method of learning to swim by diving into the deep-end. Perhaps I didn't take to the water with complete finesse nor did I manage flawless technique in executing the breaststroke, but at least I learned to tread water and swam a few strokes on my way back to shore, and not too shabbily at that for an initial plunge.

- END -

(The following two book reports are of the same book, 'Female To Male Transsexualism', from two different perspectives, one from a professor of medical psychology, and the other from a female to male transsexual. The first Book Report was reprinted from 'The SIECUS Report', published by the Sex Information and Education Council of the U.S., 80 Fifth Ave., Suite 801, New York, NY 10011. The second Book Report was reprinted from 'The Metamorphosis Newsletter', published by MMRF, Box 5963, Station 'A', Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5W-1P4.)

FEMALE-TO-MALE TRANSSEXUALISM: HISTORICAL, CLINICAL AND THEORETICAL ISSUES:

by Leslie Martin Lothstein
Boston: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1983 (336 pp.; $24.95).

BOOK REVIEW ONE: Reviewed by Eileen Higham, PhD, Assistant Professor of Medical Psychology, The Johns Hopkins University and Medical Institutions, Baltimore, MD.

A book on female-to-male transsexualism is bound to find its way to the bookshelf of anyone interested in sexual disorders. This one, written by the co-director of the Case Western Reserve Gender Identity Clinic, is a welcome addition to the mental health specialists's library despite its errors and logical flaws.

The exhaustive review of the history of female-to-male transsexualism, together with the critical assessment of the genetic, chromosomal, hormonal, neurologic, and sociocultural issues involved in the diagnosis of the condition, will be especially useful to the inexperienced clinician. The knowledgeable professional will be perplexed by Lothstein's occasional misinterpretations and outright errors. For example, he describes individuals with the various syndromes of hermaphroditism studied from infancy stages onward by Money and Ehrhardt (1972) as "self-labeled female transsexuals who had various hormonal disorders." Similarly, he misses the most important contribution of Money and his collaborators to gender-identify differentiation, both normal and abnormal:

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the interaction of prenatal and postnatal factors in the development of one's sense of having a feminine, masculine, or transposed and distorted psychosexual status. Lothstein's failure to recognize and utilize the importance of the interaction of the various psychological and psychological events which may affect abnormalities of gender-identity substantially weakens his otherwise comprehensive presentation of the development of female-to-male transsexualism.

Lothstein's theoretical orientation relies heavily on psychoanalytic theories, especially the works of Kohut, Laing, Winnicott, Guntrip, and Stoller, and their contributions to understanding pre-oedipal psychopathology. Based on the studies of 53 patients at Case Western Reserve, of which four were "in depth case histories," Lothstein concludes that female transsexuals are "targeted by their parents to develop a profound gender disorder." Unable to develop a core feminine gender-identity in the early years of life, the child incorporates some degree of male self-representation resulting in a borderline personality disorder. In emphasizing this aspect of transsexualism, the author neglects the importance and function of the dissociated; two-personalities present in the transsexual, an aspect clearly illustrated in his detailed case histories. Looking at transsexualism in the context of dissociated, multiple personalities would have strengthened both the author's conceptual effort to understand the disorder and his conclusion that the request for sex reassignment is an effort to restore or repair a fragmented self-representation or to heal and integrate the dissociated selves. The major function of the "two-year, real-life test," described by Money and Ambinder (1978), is to integrate the fragmented selves as well as to establish a diagnosis.

Since Lothstein's conclusions are based entirely on retrospective accounts by the patients and some family members and friends and on psychological test data, they must be viewed as limited in usefulness. Furthermore, he has not presented us with specific data regarding the schedule of inquiry, frequency and duration of long-term intensive psychotherapy, methods of recording interview and therapy data, and the theoretical framework utilized for interpretation of psychological tests, especially the projective tests. The inclusion of such data would be very useful for subsequent investigators and for planning prospective research programs. Only prospective, longitudinal studies will be able to provide the answers to the questions regarding the characteristics of upbringing and family dynamics in normal and abnormal gender-identity differentiation is vulnerable to disruption by a variety of experiences, a fact stressed by others.

Despite the above-mentioned limitations of this book, one can draw from it a number of useful conclusions: (1) in early life, gender-identity differentiation is vulnerable to disruption from a variety of sources; (2) transsexualism represents the outcome of traumatic experiences resulting in

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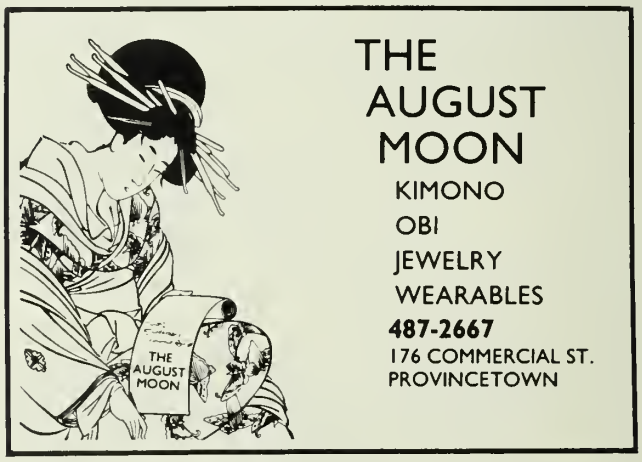

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the dissociation of gender-identity/role; and (3) sex reassignment may be the most useful palliative and rehabilitative method of treatment now available for many patients. While one cannot yet conclude with equal certainty that, as suggested by Money and his collaborators, prenatal conditions may lower the threshold to disruptive influences in postnatal life, the possibility should not be over-looked. The author's failure to address this problem will lead the inexperienced clinician into a search for postnatal causes which are not universally present, thereby hampering the effective management of this still perplexing psychopathologic condition.

When all is said and done, the "two-year, real-life test" remains as our most powerful and effective procedure for diagnosis and treatment of the patient requesting sex-reassignment, whatever the etiology of the condition.

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BOOK REVIEW TWO: Reviewed by Rupert Raj, B.A., Executive Director, Metamorphosis Medical Research Foundation

I entertain rather mixed feelings about this certainly controversial book. And, I would predict that the reactions of a high percentage of its readers (professional as well as transsexual) will be strongly negative. For instance, witness the following caustic comment made by a female-to-male transsexual (F-M TS): "Doesn't sound very good if his treatment is psychological rather than surgical. Does he really think he can talk us back into the kitchen? Not me, boy. Hell no, I won't go!"

Although it is an intensively researched and well-written work, and is even considered by some to be a 'scholarly study', I find it, not withstanding, to exude a cold clinical approach, which is at once dehumanizing and devoid of compassion, not to mention insensitive and insulting. For example, the author uses female pronouns exclusively - even when referring to post-operative F-M TSs who are now, by definition, and for all practical purposes, men!

Dr. Lothstein's clinical orientation embodies psychoanalysis and psychotherapy as it employs a mental illness model, wherin, F-M TSism is alternatively conceptualized as: a "psychological character disorder", a "severe developmental disturbance", and a form of "female gender-identity pathology". (Note the almost exclusive use of psychiatric diagnostic labels and the nearly virtual omission of such medical, psychobiological terms as "cross-gender identity" and "gender dysphoria syndrome").

Specifically, Lothstein views F-M TSism as "primarily a disorder of the self-system...involving an early childhood developmental arrest, disturbances in ego functions, and stemming primarily from borderline personality and narcissistic disorders." He also believes the F-M TSs are abnormal apart from their "gender pathology" and that "while only a small percentage (between 5% and 15%) are overtly psychotic or schizophrenic", many F-M TSs, "in addition to their personality disturbances, exhibit a wide range of other psychiatric symptoms: including depression, anxiety, panic attacks, and severe psychosomatic complaints."

The author also misconstrues the F-M TS's masculine identity and male role as a "false self" and "impersonation", respectively. Moreover, he sees the F-M TS as a woman, not as a man, and classifies "her" TSism as a female psychosexual disorder.

Lothstein contends that "while surgery may be beneficial to a few select patients, psychotherapy and not surgery is the treatment of "choice" for F-M TSs. Additionally, he argues that "whether or not sex reassignment surgery is indicated, the initial treatment of choice for F-M TSs should be intensive, long-term psychotherapy." Furthermore, he declares that "all surgical patients should be routinely referred for some form of psychological intervention or psychotherapy."

Generally, Lothstein utilizes some form of traditional, psychoanalytically

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oriented psychotherapy. Specifically, this may take the form of "a variety of sophisticated supportive (and exploratory) psychotherapies (which at times included some anxiety-provoking techniques and investigative work)." Yet, in actual fact, the "supportive" psychotherapists in these cases, deliberately did not support the F-M TS patients' lifestyle, which was regarded as a psychological "defense".

In defense of the author, however, he does make some very good points. For example, he emphasizes the extreme importance of intensive evaluations (including extensive psychological testing, counselling, and psychotherapy) prior to, and also, where indicated, subsequent to surgery (including psychological follow-up assessments).

Specifically, Lothstein points out the need to counsel the F-M TS prior to surgery as to the mostly irreversible effects of the hormonal and surgical procedures as well as their possible hazardous effect, and their practical limitations, especially regarding phalloplasty. He also sets forth the (possible) beneficial value of psychotherapy for F-M TSs and doesn't regard sex-reassignment surgery and psychotherapy as mutually exclusive.

(** Psychotherapy may possibly be of benefit to certain, carefully selected individuals [F-M TSs and gender dysphoric females] before, during or after sex-reassignment, if, and only if, there is sufficiently clear evidence that this type of treatment is indicated. That is, where there exists some element of doubt as to the patient's accurate diagnosis as a 'true transsexual' and/or where the patient adequately demonstrates some definitive form of emotional or mental instability.)

In addition, the author also provides the reader with a highly informative historical-mythological-literary review of "women who impersonated men" as well as an equally educational medical-psychological overview of past research and treatment in the field of F-M TSism and gender dysphoria.

In summary, I propose that Lothstein's book is as potentially damaging to the TS "cause" as Janice Raymond's 'The Transsexual Empire: The Making of a She-Male'. Both books contain primary assumptions that are unwarranted and invalid. To wit, Lothstein's basic premise that F-M TSs are essentially women who suffer from an abnormal form of female psychosexuality, which dates back to a very early disruption of their incipient female identification, is just as ungrounded and unjustifiable as Raymond's fundamental notion that F-M TSs are "lost" or "castrated" women, who are merely "token" or "fake" men, who collude with the medical conglomerate to undergo sex reassignment surgery in order to "neutralize" and "neuterize" their biological female sex, so as to effectively "ward off potential lesbianism" or other forms of deviance.

Both Lothstein's and Raymond's hypotheses are largely theoretical, highly speculative and generally inconclusive, not to mention ludicrously far-fetched and absolutely absurd!

The problem, I think, is one of perspective. The professional is on the outside looking in (i.e. an objective clinical observation) and the transsexual is on the inside looking out (i.e. a subjective, felt experience).

Lothstein's approach to the problem is theoretical, clinical and psychoanalytical, in specific, (neo-) Freudian. Raymond's approach to the phenomenon is ideological, sociological and sexo-political, in particular, radically feminist. The transsexual's perspective, on the other hand, is experiental, existential and phenomenological, i.e. a unique personal sense of one's self-identity (including one's body-image).

That's the problem - a difference in perspectives. What's the alternative (psycho-biological) point of view?....

- END -

(The following two-part article, 'QUEENS' and 'TRANSVESTITES', is reprinted with permission from the May 5 1984 issue of the 'Gay Community News', 167 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02111.)

Dressing the Part: Two Approaches to Drag

by Jo Schneiderman

Queens

Drag queens are welcome in only two gay bars in Boston. Only one, Jacques, offers shows and pageants. On a Thursday night before pageant, elegantly dressed queens drift, strut, flirt and dance, their contagious euphoria belying the alienation they express when they talk about their position in Boston's gay male community.

"One of the things I had to get used to," says Tina Lea, a tall blond queen who moved to Boston from Texas ten years ago, "was the gay men here don't like queens. They treat us like dirt." Although s/he has been active in the gay rights movement in the past, s/he rarely participates now in gay rights organizing. Tina echoes the sentiments of the other queens I spoke to when s/he describes her anger at the mainstream gay scene. "They don't want to be associated with me."

All the queens I spoke with complain that their image in the gay community is distorted. "The gay boys see us as prostitutes and hustlers.... They don't see us as entertainers," Tina comments. "Gay people say, 'Let's stick together," says Joanna Leigh, one of Bostons's top showgirls and manager of the Fire and Ice Review, "but the only time they want anything to do with us is at Gay Pride, or Halloween. I'm just as gay.... It's a shame."

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Transvestites

Our society is predicated on distinct and separate heterosexual gender roles: men are supposed to be "masculine," to embody "male" characteristics; women are supposed to be "feminine" and embody "female" characteristics. Every gay person has experienced society's shocked disapproval when it learns we are not living our lives according to its rules. Transvestites, or cross-dressers, as they prefer to be called, experience the same societal reaction, even though they are usually heterosexual.

"People are trained to think 'male or female,'" says Kim, one of the residents at a transvestite retreat in Wayland, Massachusetts. "When they see something that isn't quite right, it doesn't compute. The general public can't deal with the androgyny."

Merissa Sherrill Lynn is the executive secretary of the Tiffany Club, a non-profit "social/educational organization for persons interested in cross-dressing.... transsexuals.... and relatives and friends." The Tiffany Club maintains a house beyond the Boston suburbs where cross-dressers can hang out, meet others, learn about make-up and comportment, and store their clothing. Merissa describes the retreat as an "extended closet" for some people.

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Norell, a transsexual who designs and makes clothing for herself and other queens, says s/he experiences "more prejudice within the gay community than outside." Like the other queens, s/he perceives that some of the disenfranchisement is base on queens' inability to pass. "When a group that has been oppressed gets more power," Norell observes, "the group feels like they can dump on that part of the community they don't like."

All the queens stress their desire to be seen as whole, real people, rather than as the embodiment of a negative stereotype. They admit some queens are hustlers and prostitutes; some are untrustworthy; but they are angry and hurt by their across-the-board exclusion from gay bars and events. Like most people, they want to be taken seriously.

Joanna Leigh is a 29-year-old Malden native. S/he has been performing for ten years. At first s/he tried to juggle her performances with a job as a visiting nurse. But the differences in the two lifestyles, the hours and the emotional toll of working with seriously ill people finally led Joanna to quit the nursing profession and to become a full-time performer. Now s/he emcees and performs regularly at Jacques and takes the Fire and Ice Review on the road to other bars in New England.

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Susan Weiss

Tina Lea (dress by Norell)

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Merissa stresses the need for maintaining a safe space, a place where men who like to dress as women can be accepted for who they are, free from harassment.

Harassment, the cross-dressers at the Tiffany Club maintain, results from society's fixation on clear and distinct gender roles. "Our society suffers from a masculine superiority complex," Merissa explains, "so that any man who wants to express his femininity is taboo."

"Men think we're demeaning men's roles," adds Paula, one of Tiffany's guests. "We're weakening their hold on society."

Because our society attacks whatever it can't understand, and whatever threatens the status quo, cross-dressers may lose jobs, clubs may be closed on technical violations, family and friends may react with horror. Judy, another guest, carries around a notice that verifies the legal right to dress in clothes of the opposite sex. More than once, the notice has protected Judy from police harassment.

In addition to sharing society's scorn, cross-dressers share women's fear of rape. Rape can and has happened, the Tiffany guests agree. When a potential rapist discovers his victim is really a man, he can become even angrier and his attack can become

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Holly

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Talking about her decision to perform, Joanna says, "It's in your blood. You either feel it or you don't. You don't just say, 'I'm going to go out there.'"

Joanna's performances differ from those of most of the other area showgirls, primarily in the choice of music, which can best be described as high camp. Unlike many performers, s/he pays little attention to accurate lip-synching or mimicking of the original artist. Instead, Joanna's performances are extrememly theatrical, even outrageous. "You have to capture an audience," s/he explains. "You have to have a gimmick. My gimmick is camping."

Joanna sees herself as Boston's top drag entertainer. S/he has helped

Joanna Leigh

a number of other performers gain recognition, but downplays her role. "Nobody can 'make' somebody. You have to make yourself." S/he is aware that her prominence has triggered jealousy and complains about the competitiveness among performers. "Fame," s/he comments, "has its disadvantages. People hate to see other people get ahead." Nevertheless, s/he takes the competition in stride, perhaps because s/he is making decent money as a performer, lives in a stable relationship with her "husband," and is very secure about her talent.

One of the performers in the Fire and Ice Review, S.W. (s/he asked that her name not be used), is a relative newcomer to the drag-show scene. Only 20 years old, S.W. is a transsexual with theatrical training who gives an electrifying performance. S/he earns 50 percent of her income from shows. The remainder comes from her live-in

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more brutal. Since many of the cross-dressers want to pass as women in public, they have found that they need to learn how to protect themselves from sexual assault. Kim mentions that in her former home town of Denver, Colorado, the transvestite club offered classes in rape protection. Holly, a guest, notes, "It costs me more money to go out as a woman, because I have to park close to where I'm going."

Like gays, cross-dressers fear the pain and difficulty of coming out. Several of the guests at the Tiffany Club are married and they have all dealt differently with coming out. "My wife isn't sure what I'm doing," says Judy. "She wants to know and she doesn't want to know. But if my son found out he would bury me."

"I couldn't continue to deceive [my wife]," recalls Debby, another guest. "When [she] discovered, she was extremely shocked. We've been working on it very hard... getting help. She's accepting it more and more [but] she may not be able to accept it [fully]."

Other cross-dressers bring their wives to meetings where the women can find support through other wives and girlfriends. "My wife admits that we are a nice group of people," says

Kim

Paula, but acknowledges that wives are also caught up in society's demand that men and women be clearly differentiated.

Despite harassment, coming-out difficulties and personal problems accepting their differences, cross-dressers express a sense of self-satisfaction and emotional tranquility.

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boyfriend.

S.W. wears very little make-up and looks like a woman. Despite her talent and love of performing, s/he says s/he doesn't "have dreams of being a female illusionist for the rest of her life." Rather s/he wants to have a sex-change operation and live as a woman.

Many of the performers and patrons at Jacques wear clothes that are extremely costume-like. Tina Lea, however, often dresses in elegant high fashion. Many of her outfits are designed by Norell, a professional clothing designer who expects to open her own shop in partnership with Eve's Garden in the Back Bay.

Norell defines herself as a transsexual and, like S.W., expects to undergo a sex-change operation. S/he has been designing clothes since childhood, when her grandmother taught her to make doll clothes. Norell uses no

S.W.

patterns and has the impressive ability to copy any article of clothing from a drawing or photograph. Dresses s/he has made have turned up in vintage clothing stores with price tags as high as $80.

Norell started as a showgirl, then discovered s/he was "wearing more make-up as a boy than as a girl." Norell says s/he has more confidence living as a woman. "When I run around as a boy," s/he explains, "I get strange looks from people. When I live as a woman... I can just go about my business." Norell hopes to be a successful

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Merissa presents three basic rewards for cross-dressing. All cross-dressers are different and the importance of each reward varies according to the individual. The first of Merissa's list is that cross-dressing can be a sexual turn-on, like other kinds of costuming. The second is more

Roberta

sensual: the feel of feminine clothing, a sense of pride, beauty, etc. Finally, Merissa says, people get emotional rewards from cross-dressing such as peace of mind, escapism, etc.

Most of the guests at the Tiffany Club describe an emotional release. Acting as women, they say, they can express aspects of their personalities they feel unable to express as men.

"I feel very different when I'm Debby," Debby explains. "I like my female self better."

Several of the cross-dressers describe a psychological merging of their male and female selves. "I'm more of an androgynous person," Merissa states. "I use my masculine qualities as well as my feminine."

"From seeing both sides," Kim observes, "you are pretty much on the side of the women." Kim feels androgynous: the masculine and feminine personality aspects have finally merged.

The cross-dressers say that when they are "dressed," the women who emerge are parts of their life-long personalities. "I am who I am when I'm dressed," says Debby. "I'm the kind of

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professional business woman, and has already had all her IDs changed.

Even though queens have always been a part of the gay community and we all loved La Cage aux Folles, in real life queens are subject to ridicule and exclusion by other gays. It is important that we accept those parts of our community that will never pass, that will never be acceptable to straight people. If we do not, we perpetuate our own oppression by turning our self hatred on less powerful members of our own community.

My foray into the world of queens and their experience of oppression by other gays was summed up in a conversation photographer Susan Weiss had with a man in Skipper's while I was interviewing Norell.

"Why do you call him 'she'?" the man asked.

"Just look at her," Susan answered.

"Yeah. But why do you call him 'she'?" the man repeated.

"Out of respect."

"Oh. I never thought of that."

"OKAY... THAT'S TWO PENDLETON SHIRTS, ONE PAIR LEATHER CHAPS, THREE PAIR 501 LEVI'S, ONE BOMBER JACKET, ONE SET GYM SWEATS, AND ONE SIZE 12 HALSTED GOWN."

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person I am inside."

For years, Paula struggled with the desire to cross-dress before finally accepting it. "There is a good reason to think that a person has a good sense of her gender role early in life," Paula observes. "Ever since I was five years old, I have liked women more than men. I thought marriage would cure me... but it doesn't work that way."

Because they fit neither in the gay community nor in the heterosexual community, cross-dressers have been creating their own safe places for years. The Tiffany Club is nearing its seventh anniversary and is based on social groups that have been active for the past 25 years, observes Merissa. Kim points out the need for increased ties to the gay community, which should evolve through cross-dressers' increased visibility.

Our shared experience of societally disapproved gender/sex roles creates a natural connection between gays and cross-dressers. The guests at Tiffany all say they feel much more accepted by the gay community than by the straight community. But because they are on the fringes of the gay community, they do not yet share the anger of the queens.

HOW TO BE "READ" PROPERLY
by Shirley K. Knight

Most transvestites (TVs) spend most of their lives learning how to "pass" in public without being "read". Translated, this means they wish to be accepted as a real woman in public (pass) and not be detected (read) as being cross-dressed.

They spend fortunes on their appearance. First there are the skirts, dresses, blouses, and all the other pretty things. Then there is the appropriate padding and a ton of makeup. The crowning touch is a carefully styled wig. Let's face it, it's not easy to be beautiful, but surprisingly enough a good appearance can be mastered.

A TV must learn body language. How to walk, sit, eat and generally act like a woman. There is nothing funnier than a beautiful looking TV who walks and talks like a truck driver.

The voice is the hardest thing to master. It involves pitch, rhythm, choice of words and suitable topics. Most drill sargeants in drag give themselves away when they use their command voices or start discussing the Normandy invasion.

After spending years perfecting these things, one would assume that a TV could pass beautifully. Unfortunately most don't pass worth a damn. Even the best TVs get read. Although we all strive for it, being able to pass freely in public, in a variety of situations, over an extended period of time, is for most TVs an impossible dream.

This leaves two choices. TVs can stay in their closets, never venturing out in public, or they can go out and learn how to be read properly. Going out requires tremendous courage as there are risks involved, but it is a necessary step in developing one's confidence and it can be fun. Based on my experiences, I would like to offer a few suggestions.

You have finally gotten the courage up to get dressed and go out. You are walking into a restaurant or bar

Shirley K. (CO-0493)

and everyone is looking at you. Relax, this is a common occurance. Even "real people" get checked out when they first arrive. In most cases the people will soon forget you are there.

You sit down and order. The couple at the next table continue looking directly at you and are whispering to each other. You know, they know, you are a man dressed as a woman. You are being read!

Again your best defense is to relax and try to act normal. Unless you go running from the place or sign a confession, they really don't know you are a guy. They may be 99 percent certain, but until they get into you pants (dress) they really don't know for sure. There are many real women with low voices and other masculine characteristics. Secondly, most people do not know how to respond to a cross-dresser, so they do nothing.

If you are in a high class restaurant or lounge, the management - not wanting any disturbances - will generally treat you well. The worst thing that can happen is you might be

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refused service or asked to leave. This does happen occasionally. Someone once said that a successful landing is any landing that you can walk away from. I would rephrase that to - any time you go out in public and you don't get beaten up or thrown in jail, it was successful. People may have read you, but as long as they don't know who you are, what difference does it make?

Let's try another situation. You have gotten dressed, gone to a bar or dance and you are being read royal. There are four young men who are asking you the rhetorical question, "Why are you dressed that way unless you are a fag?" Besides being complete jerks, they are threatening your person. This is a TV's nightmare.

Obviously the best thing to do is to avoid these situations entirely. Stay out of macho type bars and avoid young crowds. Young men, who are themselves trying to establish their own masculinity, are particularly threatened by, and hostile towards, cross-dressers. Safe places to go to generally include high class restaurants, some bars, theaters, and drive-in theaters. Gay bars that tolerate women are safe also. Avoid 'men only' bars. Secondly, never go anywhere alone. The best is to be with real, understanding people. Being with another dressed TV increases your chances of being read, but it is still safer than being alone.

Let's return to our situation. You are still dressed and you now know for sure that you are in a predicament. Your over-riding concern is how to get out of this situation alive.

The best thing to do is to leave as soon as possible. Discretion is the better part of valor. If you are not allowed to leave, you might have to get help or call the police.

Fortunately, most situations are more embarrassing than threatening. At the Tiffany Club house, Malinda Anderson recently mentioned to me that she considered cross-dressing an art form. It definitely is. I believe that one of the main reasons many of us cross-dress is for the attention that we receive. Passing may be our objective, but being read definitely contributes to the excitement of cross-dressing.

In summary, I would like to remind you of Abraham Lincoln's famous quotation on cross-dressing in public: "You may fool all the people some of the time: and you can even fool some of the people all the time; but you can't fool all the people all the time."

- END -

* * * * * * * * * *

(** Now let's see how well Shirley practices what she preaches. -ED)

FLIGHT 253 TO DENVER
by Shirley K. Knight

This year Larry (the 'other' me) took all day to fly from Colorado to Provincetown, Mass. for the Tiffany Club's fourth annual cross-dressers' holiday outing. Shortly after arriving in Provincetown, I dressed as Shirley and stayed that way for five wild, fun packed days.

When I was getting ready to leave, I mentioned to Kim Schreiber that I was going to fly back to Colorado. As I was still flying high from the outing, she replied,, "Yes!, but are you going to take an airplane?" "Are you going to fly back dressed?" I had planned to fly back as Larry. I had read about other transvestites flying while dressed, and I had fantasized about doing it myself. With a little bit of encouragement and a lot of rationalization such as, I am 2000 miles from home and no one here knows me, I decided to attempt the impossible.

The air was hot and humid as Kim drove us "girls" to Logan International Airport in Boston. In front of the TWA terminal, Kim helped me unload my baggage -- two suitcases, a garment bag and a shoulder tote. I thanked Kim, we said goodby, and she drove off. Then the reality of the situation struck me. I was no longer in the safety of Provincetown, surrounded by other cross-dressers. When Kim left, I was alone.

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Besides the sudden sense of isolation, I felt committed. Being dressed may have been a mistake, and I was rapidly coming to that conclusion, but there was no way I could switch back now. I was committed, good or bad, to the flight.

I summoned up all my courage, picked up the baggage, and walked through the glass doors towards the baggage counter. The lobby was crowded, and I easily blended in with the group.

When it was my turn, I handed my tickets to the agent behind the counter and set the suitcases on the scales. The tickets had "Mr." clearly written on them, but "Mrs." was standing there. The agent was polite, but had some difficulty in addressing me as madam or sir.

Going to the boarding area was no problem. Because I was returning a day late, I was flying standby - something I had never done before. I waited as all the people with assigned seats boarded the airplane first. Then they called me by my real name over the loud speaker. This was embarrassing, but, thank God, I didn't have to wait for the next flight.

I walked out the long boarding ramp carrying my garment bag over one shoulder with the tote bag slung over the other. I walked through the airplane hatch, past all the flight attendants into the plane.

This must have been the largest plane in the world. There were nine seats per row and at least a hundred rows. All the seats were full. Everyone was facing forward watching me navigate the narrow aisle to my center-back seat. There was nothing like having a whole airplane full of people to perform for. The only thing missing was a spot light. I was on stage.

After I was seated, the stewardess asked the older couple sitting next to me if they would prefer the two seats by the window. I thought for a minute that these people might injure themselves scrambling away from me.

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"Fasten your seat belts: the no smoking light is on." "If the plane should ditch, the seat cushion can be used as a floatation device." The plane was airborn, and I was doing my damnedest to present a low profile. I was hoping that everyone would forget that I, Shirley, was on the plane.

Thirty minutes into the flight, the passengers were relaxing as the stewardesses pushed their carts up and down the aisles serving drings. "Are you OK?" the stewardess asked an older man sitting in front of me. He was having a heart attack. The stewardesses laid him down in th aisle and rushed for the oxygen bottles. As in the movies, the pilot came on the intercom and asked "Is there a doctor or nurse on the airplane?" Both were, and I was cast back into the spot light of attention by this real-life drama.

We landed in St. Louis; the passengers were asked to remain seated as the paramedics rushed on board. By this time the man appeared to have recovered.

There was a forty-five minute delay in St. Louis. Most of the continuing passengers, including me, stayed on board. By that time, I was suffering from multiple cramps from sitting so long. I decided that I would risk walking to the rest room at the back of the plane. Using the rest room on the plane was no problem; they were single, unisex compartments. The only problem was a middle aged man who was visually monitoring my every movement. I preferred to think that he found me irresistable as a woman, but I was sure that was not the case as he carefully avoided me.

Finally, we took off again and headed for Denver. An English architect and his wife sat next to me. They were in the United States to visit several national parks. We discussed English architecture, the Falkland invasion, Russsian missiles, and virtical take-off fighter planes. "For a woman", I think I am pretty well informed on these topics.

Landing in Denver, my strategy was to stay seated while the other passengers crowded out. Then I would discreetly follow them into the terminal building, pick up my baggage, and get-the-hell out of there!

Leaving the concourse, I created some interest but nothing to worry about. Naturally, the luggage was slow arriving at the claims area. While I waited discreetly at the back of the crowd, some young girls and two cowboys watched me obviously. My first suitcase dropped down the chute and circled the revolving carousel. I waited for the second until everyone else had left. Damn!, my other suitcase was lost.

Going in to file a baggage claim was embarrassing, but after having entertained an entire airplane full of people, what are a few more people? "What is your name?" In this case, I have to give my real name. It is on the ticket anyway. "Where do you live?" "What was in the suitcase?"; women's clothing. The suitcase was located and returned two days later.

Will Shirley ever fly again? Yes! The flight was embarrassing, but it also was very exciting. The next time, Shirley will not be flying standby, and the flight will be a short, non-stop one, perhaps to the West Coast.

- END -

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DEFINITIONS FOLLOW-UP

by Merissa Sherrill Lynn

In Tapestry Issue 43 we had our annual examination of definitions, what they mean, and how they are used. The purpose of this annual examination is to develop a workable, easily understood, and generally acceptable set of categories. Once we have this set of categories we plan to publish an educational booklet. All interested and concerned persons, helping professionals and lay-persons alike, are asked to comment.

Niela Miller, President of 'People Systems Potential', offered the following comments: 1.) I want to see a bibliography - not just of TV/TS literature, but of books about male/female development and androgyny (like June Singer's "Androgyny" and "Boundaries of the Soul").

2.) OK, what's missing for me is the vertical - the possibilities of movement through stages - what's typical and what's individual - I might say that CDs (cross-dressers) who do not aspire to AN (androgyny) eventually, cannot be fully integrated HBs (human beings) and that the role of the HP (helping professional, counselor-type) is to explore with the CD in what ways s/he denies this development of self.

3.) Separate 'Psychology' and 'Sociology'. 'Psychology' concerns itself with thinking, feeling, behavior and intuition - the function of the mind. 'Sociology' is the study of group and community development and behavior.

4.) Under 'Gender Dysphoria', give a better explanation of why 'sex' is a biological fact, even after reassignment surgery, taking hormones, etc.

5.) Under 'Masculine and Feminine', the phrase "qualify qualities of Nature" is confusing. Perhaps "qualify characteristics of Nature" would be better.

6.) Concerning 'Fetishism'; I think there needs to be a developmental discussion of the stages that CDs go thru.

7.) I have a new category - the word I come up with is 'FANTASIST' - i.e. those who have fantasies of being the opposite gender, but don't feel the need to cross-dress.

Rupert Raj, Director of the Metamorphosis Medical Research Foundation, offered the following comment: "I would like to suggest the addition of two more terms to your extensive list: the term 'PAN-SEXUAL' (in lieu of your usage of the word 'tri-sexual', meaning 'will try anything sexual'), and 'HUMAN-SEXUAL'. I believe 'human-sexual' is one of the most meaningful and relevant terms employed today due to its very beneficial consciousness-raising capacity. I cannot take credit for the coining of this happiest of terms as that credit goes to the gay group at the University of Waterloo in Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario. The interpretation of 'humansexual' is as follows: "Humansexuality - a romantic, sexual, loving attraction to a particular person (male or female, man or woman) such that the humanity and the personality of the specific individual takes precedence of the sexuality (sex and gender) and the genitalia of the person. A humansexual lover would see - and relate to - the beloved one not as a 'sex object' per se, but rather, primarily as a particular person, a specific individual, a significant 'other' in his/her own right. In this way, a humansexual is beyond being bisexual for although the sexuality (and the sexiness) of the person involved is certainly important, in an integral sense, yet, it is still only an incidental aspect of the person as a whole. Humansexual love, therefore, would address itself to (in passionate embrace) the mind, heart, soul and body of the beloved, regardless of his/her sex and gender."

Other comments:

One of the inherent difficulties of using the term 'transsexual' is that individuals tend to identify with the term and call themselves 'transsexual', then modify their thinking and behavior accordingly (sometimes with disastrous

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results). Susan Huxford, Director of the Federation of American and Canadian Transsexuals, offers this solution: Substitute the term 'transsexual' with the term 'TRANSSEXUALLY INCLINED'. That way you are addressing the the transsexual phenomena, and not an individual, and you avoid all the problems that arise when you pigeonhole a person into a category that may or may not apply. 'Transsexually inclined' is a much more flexible, and therefore more useful and less dangerous term.

The term 'transgender' was originally intended to apply to people who could express themselves comfortably in both masculine and feminine terms without the sexual connotations of the term 'transvestite'. 'Transgender' has recently come to mean people who cross-live on a permanent basis. Many persons who originally considered themselves 'transgenderists' began calling themselves 'androgynes'. However, 'androgyne' has a metaphysical meaning that transcends the act of cross-dressing itself, which leaves those who simply enjoy cross-dressing without the sexual overtones, without a term that applies to them. Betsy, who coined the term 'transgender' originally, suggests the term 'BI-GENDER'.

Several persons noted the absence of the term 'EONISM'. Eonism is a popular term that has been in use for nearly 200 years, and should certainly have been included in the definitions. The term was named after the Chevalier d'Eon, an 18th century French nobleman who frequently posed as a woman. The term means "The adoption of feminine mannerisms, clothing, etc., by a male." The term 'eonism' is unique for the following reasons: (1) It is exclusively male. (2) It includes the complete adoption of a womanly persona, mannerisms as well as clothing. However, it does not mean that adoption is permanent. (3) It is strictly a behavioral term, and does not imply any reasons for such behavior, or include sexual activity, or sexual or genderal identity. Eonism does not mean transvestism because it is exclusively for males, and does not imply sexual or compulsive behavior. It does not mean cross-dressing because it is a more specific term. It does not mean transgender because it is not permanent. It does not mean bi-gender because bi-gender includes recreational cross-dressers, and persons who do not adopt the 'womanly' persona. It does not mean transsexual because it is not an identity issue. It does not mean femmiphile (although femmiphile comes closest) because it does not imply a motivation or value judgement. It does not mean androgyne because it is not a philosophical term. In short, eonism means eonism and nothing else, and most certainly should have been included in the 'Definitions' article.

It was also brought to our attention that the terms 'NEW MAN' and 'NEW WOMAN' were not mentioned. The omission was intentional, although perhaps the terms should have been mentioned. The terms apply to persons who have completed their sexual reassignment (or if you prefer, 'corrective') surgery, and are now for all practical and legal purposes, men and women. 'Man' and 'woman' are better terms than 'new man' and 'new woman', which carry the 'post-operative transsexual' label.

Again, all constructive comments from all persons are welcome. If you have a comment(s), send it to: Editor, Tapestry, Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

- END -

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ON BORDER CROSSING AS A WOMAN

by Micheline Johnson

As a resident of Ottawa, and a citizen of Canada, I often have cause to cross the US-Canada border when visiting friends in the USA.

A letter I wrote for the 'TVIC Journal' in April 1976 described the first few times I crossed the US border as 'Micheline' in the summer of 1975.

I started travelling as 'Micheline' to Albany from Ottawa from that time on, on a regular basis, without incident, for several years.

A letter in the April 1977 issue described my experiences the first time Micheline flew to Albany.

In September 1977, I encountered my first difficulty with US Immigration. As a result I enquired into the legal situation for Canadian cross-dressers (CDs) entering the US, and for American CDs entering Canada.

At the Champlain New York Border post, I spent an hour or so talking to Immigration Service supervisor Sweenie, now retired. He told me that there was no law excluding CDs per se, however, some officers interpreted the act of cross-dressing to indicate that such a person is homosexual.

The US Immigration and Nationality Act (1952), in section 212A lists a number of catagories of persons that are excluded from entering the US. Subsection (4) of this section excludes persons "afflicted with psychopathic personality or sexual deviation, or a mental defect." It thus boils down to definition or interpretation of terminology used in the act, specifically what is meant by the term "sexual deviation".

It apparently matters not to some of these officials that the statistics show that 90% of cross-dressers are hetero-sexual, nor that the motive for cross-dressing in most cases has nothing to do with sex. To be sure, cross-dressing has a lot to do with the person's gender identity or gender role of greatest comfort. But how do you discuss such things with people who do not distinguish between sex and gender.

During that talk with Sweenie, at least one thing was established, namely that so far as court decisions (which interpret and extend the law) are concerned, all he could find during a 45 minute search of the US Justice Dept. library there, were decisions interpreting "sexual deviation" to mean "homosexual". He therefore advised CDs crossing the border to carry some kind of proof or indication of their heterosexuality for the benefit of those officers that misinterpreted the act of cross-dressing.

Similarly, I enquired of the Canadian Department of Manpower and Immigration how the law in Canada stood with respect to American CDs entering Canada. In answer to my letter dated 1977-09-22 to the Facilitation Enforcement and Control Branch of that Department, I received an unsatisfacory reply from Mr. D. Conn, the Director General, Immigration. I wrote back on 1977-11-08, pointing out the deficiences in his reply, and got in response two letters, one dated 1977-12-19 from W.J. van Staalduinen, A/Director, Policy Division of the above Branch, and the second dated 1978-01-11 from D. Conn, the Director General.

Mr. Van Staalduinen's letter was reproduced in the January 1978 issue of the TVIC Journal, and stated, in part, that "... a (Canadian) immigration ..

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officer... should not .. interpret a person's mode of dressing as an indication that he is a homosexual. Moreover, there is no law in Canada... against a person being a transvestite... (nor) ... under Canada's new Immigration legislation, ... are homosexuals ... inadmissible."

Mr. Conn's second letter (Jan. 1978) confirmed the above points.

Armed with the information given to me by Mr. Sweenie, I was able to cross into the US without difficulty, regularly, until a further incident occured on the way to the Tiffany Open House this year (1984-09-15). At the Champlain NY crossing (Interstate-87) we encountered an uptight customs officer by the name of Ledges.

He insisted that I was a "female impersonator" and that this was an excluded category. I was sure that this term was not used in the Immigration Act, so I asked him to show me where it said that. He went off to their reference library there, and did a very thorough search. It must have been thorough; it took 2 hours. We waited patiently. He did not find a decision mentioning female impersonator. He had to search much further back than Sweenie had done. Finally, he found a decision made in 1956 (July 11). I gather that this was made during the McCarthy era.

This particular decision, see A-8312899, in Decision Book volume 7, gage 258 dealt with the case of a man being deported from Detroit back to Canada for being afflicted with a psychopathic personality. However, in a footnote on page 262, the decision quoted a comment from the United States Public Health Service:

"The language of the bill (section 212[a] [4]) lists sexual perverts or homosexuals as among those aliens to be excluded from admission to the United States. In some instances considerable difficulty may be encountered in substantiating a diagnosis of homosexuality or sexual perversion. In other instances where the action and behavior of the person is obvious, as might be noted in the manner of dress (so-called transvestism or fetishism), the condition may be more easily substantiated. Ordinarily, a history of homosexuality must be obtained from the individual, which he may successfully cover up. Some psychological tests may be helpful in uncovering homosexuality of which the individual himself may be unaware. At the present time there is no reliable laboratory tests which would be helpful in making a diagnosis. The detection of persons with more obvious sexual perversion is relatively simple. Considerably more difficulty may be encountered in uncovering the homosexual person. Ordinarily, persons suffering from disturbances in sexuality are included within the classification of "psychopathic personality with pathological sexuality." This classification will specify such types of pathological behavior as homosexuality or sexual perversion which includes sexual sadism, fetishism, transvestism, pedophilia, etc. In those instances where the disturbance in sexuality may be difficult to uncover, a more obvious disturbance in personality may be encountered which would warrant a classification of psychopathic personality or mental defect. (H. Rep. No. 1365, 82d Cong., 2d sess., pp. 46, 47.)"

Such were the views of the Public Health Service in those days (1956), and since these views appeared as a footnote in a court decision dealing with section 212(a) (4), and since Ledges and his supervisor (Mr. Laramie) were unable to uncover any later decision over-ruling the above, this interpretation that a transvestite must be a homosexual and is therefore excluded, is still on the books and is therefore the current law.

In spite of all this, Ledges finally relented, and decided to let us through and into the United States. He took my home address in Ottawa, and promised to send me any further information he discovered on the subject. And so we made it to the Open House.

- END -

(The following article was edited from Playbill Magazine, Dept. D.P., 263 Summer St., Boston, MA 02210)

ACTING LIKE A LADY

by Robin Reif

(While today's playgoers find drag roles easy to enjoy, actors don't necessarily find them easy to play.)

George Hearn in La Cage aux Folles

Most young actors love to strut their boyish spirits playing soldiers or cowboys or kings. But ten men at the Palace Theatre adore playing queens - They're nightly slipping into heels, hose, and corsets trimmed in maribou to form the best line of legs on Broadway: the transvestite chorus of 'La Cage aux Folles'.

And they're not the only ones shedding the husk of gender to don the guise of the opposite sex. Off-Broadway's recent 'Cloud 9' featured one man in bustle and curls playing a Victorian housewife, another in a pink frock and pigtails as a five-year-old girl, and a woman acting as a pre-adolescent boy named Edward. Diane Venora had her melancholy hour on the stage as Prince Hamlet in Joseph Papps's 1982 production, and George Hearn currently impersonates two females in La Cage aux Folles. Also in the new musical 'The Rink', there is a chorus of six men who double in some of the women's roles.

But cross-dressing on the Broadway stage is nothing new. Turn-of-the-century actor Julian Eltinge was a tour-de-force as 'The Facinating Widow', and Bert Savoy, in 20's revues, played a Mae West prototype who chatted nonstop, flourished silk handkerchiefs, and tossed off lines like, "you mussst come over."

In the 50's, a sweet-faced actor named T.C. Jones warmed his bald head with splendid wigs to impersonate Marilyn Monroe as Ophelia, Tallulah Bankhead as Cleopatra, and Mae West as Kate, the shrew, in a Broadway revue called Mask and Gown.

Despite these vivid displays, actors in drag have always been rare birds on Broadway. Only recently are men showing up in padded bras and women in padded shoulders on stages all over town. And while today's playgoers find drag roles easy to enjoy, actors don't necessarily find them easy to play.

"Playing a woman is hazardous," says George Hearn, "even though it's an old theatre tradition and should mean nothing, but we are all uneasy about our gender."

This became clear to him after accepting the role of Albin, a Cote d' Azur transvestite in La Cage aux Folles. Hearn began waking up in the middle of the night, bolting upright, and thinking with horror, "I'm gonna do what?" As he told one reporter, "I couldn't believe that I was going to do that in front of God and everyone - in Times Square, no less."

One of the "everyone" would be his own mother who winced at the thought of her boy in a skirt. Although she'd

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seen him on Broadway as the murderous villain, Sweeney Todd, she found it easier to accept "my son, the homicidal maniac" than "my son, the sissy."

The fact that Fredericks of Hollywood catalogs came pouring in from Hearn's prankster friends did nothing to salve his anxieties. "I thought, 'I'm a hard-drinking Irishman. I'm not supposed to do that.'"

While he may have worried about being out front in wigs, boas, and rhinestones, the men on the drag kickline behind him had their qualms too, and their choreographer, Scott Salmon, knew it.

"You're not here because you're screaming faggots or because you look or move like women," he told them on the first day of rehearsal, or so Frank DiPasquale, one of the glamorous "Cagelles" recalls. "You're here because you have the special talent to pull this off."

DiPasquale, who plays the leggy Dermah, had other more immediate concerns. "My particular stumbling block was feeling that I didn't look as beautiful as the other guys," he says, blushing a bit at his own revelation. "I heard this voice in my head saying, 'I'm not pretty. I don't have a chin. ;My skin's not good,' and so on. I'd finally gotten over that as a man, and now I had to deal with it as a woman!"

Aside from such psychic irritations, there are physical aches and pains that come with the strange territory of crossdressed roles. James Lecesne, who played the little girl in Cloud 9 found it tough to skip, jump, and leap from the stage like a hyperactive five-year-old in a pair of Mary Janes. At least he could work in flats - the boys in La Cage spend six nights a week in three-to-five inch spikes.

While Diane Venora had little trouble walking like a man, the problem was fighting like one. When it came time to wield a sword in the last act of Hamlet, she'd suddenly wish herself a woman cheering on the Prince from the other side of the pillar. To counteract her bent to duel with her butt stuck out, the fight director, B.H. Barry, kept urging her to keep her

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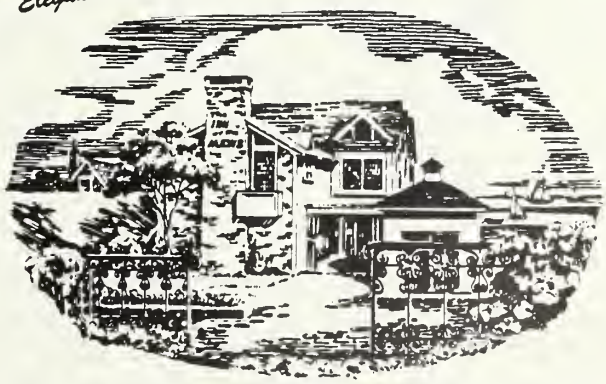

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"buns under." "Women naturally tip back their pelvises to pull away from danger," Diane says. "It's a need to protect the womb - a very primitive impulse." It was one that she had to work hard to overcome.

James Lecesne in the role of a five-year-old girl, which he played in Cloud Nine

While cross-dressed roles can be murder on the feet or hips, they may, however, be good for the heart. Elaine Bromka of Cloud 9 found that playing a boy stoked her compassion for those of the other sex. When her character, Edward, cries after being smacked, he is bluntly told, "A boy has no business having feelings."

"That line really moved me night after night," Elaine says. "It always felt like an appalling afront. What a ridiculous thing to be taught, and yet many boys are still taught just that."

"It's an empathetic feeling," says George Hearn, "to perfect a feminine gesture - a certain walk, or pose, or something so small as making a fist without tucking in my fingertips. Each time I did this in rehearsal, I'd think, 'that's how my mother or sister or wife must have felt when she made that gesture.' There is in man a feminine side, and exposing it in this role is an adventure."

Like many adventures, this one had its eerie moments. "The most bizarre thing was seeing myself in makeup," Hearn says. "Suddenly I was a woman - a painted woman - but still, a woman. That was disturbing."

Simulating this gender switch alerted Hearn to something that he'd never given much thought: that a man in a skirt puts his dignity at risk. When he auditioned for La Cage in a red dress and wig, singing "My Heart Belongs to Daddy," it was all he could do to uphold the stature which his costume placed under siege.

"It does seem like a psychological step backward in the chain of authority for men to play women," Hearn says. "I guess it reveals an assumption of male superiority in people's minds."

Though a man in drag may lose authority, a woman seems to gain it - or so Diane Venora discuvered when she played Hamlet. "When I first got the role, I thought, 'Now I have the opportunity, the right to act as strong as I really am and be accepted, rather than be called a bitch."

As a man, she says, she could get away with expressing strong tones like vengence, hatred, and rage. "For a woman, those tones are not really acceptable. For example," she says, "in one scene I hurl old letters at Ophelia and call her all sorts of profanities because my heart is broken. Her response is, "O! what a noble mind is here o'erthrown.' Now, had I been a woman in that scene throwing letters and shouting profanities, I'd never be called a 'noble mind'; I'd be called a hysterical bitch."

This shift in stature is but one of the discoveries actors may make by such extreme masquerading. Another is the oddly liberating feeling of total self-effacement. "When I put on that dress and that wig, I suddenly was someone that I never was before and never will be again," says 21-year-old Steven Flynn who played a shy Victorian housewife in Cloud 9." "Such a thick mask freed me to be very uninhibited."

James Lecesne concurs. "You can simply have more fun in someone else's clothes. It's very liberating when those clothes are those of a five-year-old girl. It frees me from the narrow, gender-defined pocket of the 28-year-old man in which I normally live.

- END -

SEX CHANGER
Dr. Stanley Biber, Surgeon, renowned authority on transsexual surgery
by Bill Shaw

In early April, Robert Sylvester, the former city council president of St., Paul, Minn., traveled to Trinidad, Colo., a withered old mining town 200 miles from Denver. Sylvester underwent two hours of surgery in the town's only hospital at the hands of the town's only surgeon. He awoke with a woman's body. Robert Sylvester was now Susan Kimberly.

"A very lovely woman," says Sister Roberta Marie, a nun who is one of several Trinidad clergy helping such patients. Sister Roberta Marie drove Kimberly to the bus for the Denver airport and her flight back, a "maiden voyage" as a female.

Dr. Stanley Biber is the only surgeon at Trinidad's 75-bed Mt. San Rafael Hospital. "I'm just a country doctor," he says, but in the last 15 years, the 59-year-old Biber has performed more than 1,000 "gender identification" operations.

After MASH unit duty in the Korean War, Biber settled in Trinidad in 1955 to provide medical service for Trinidad inhabitants and the United Miane Workers. But his practice changed in 1969 when a female social worker strolled into his office. She was a he.

"She said she was a transsexual, and I said, 'What's that?'" Biber recalls. He consulted the patient's psychiatrist before agreeing to operate, then wrote to Baltimore's Johns Hopkins' hospital, at that time a major center for sex-change operations, for what he calls "a set of drawings."

The operation was a success. While other doctors and medical schools - including Hopkins - gave up transsexual surgery, Biber perfected his technique. Result: Little Trinidad is now the sex-change capital of the world, and Biber is its surgical king. Referrals come to him from everywhere. "I got 'em coming out of the woodwork," he says.

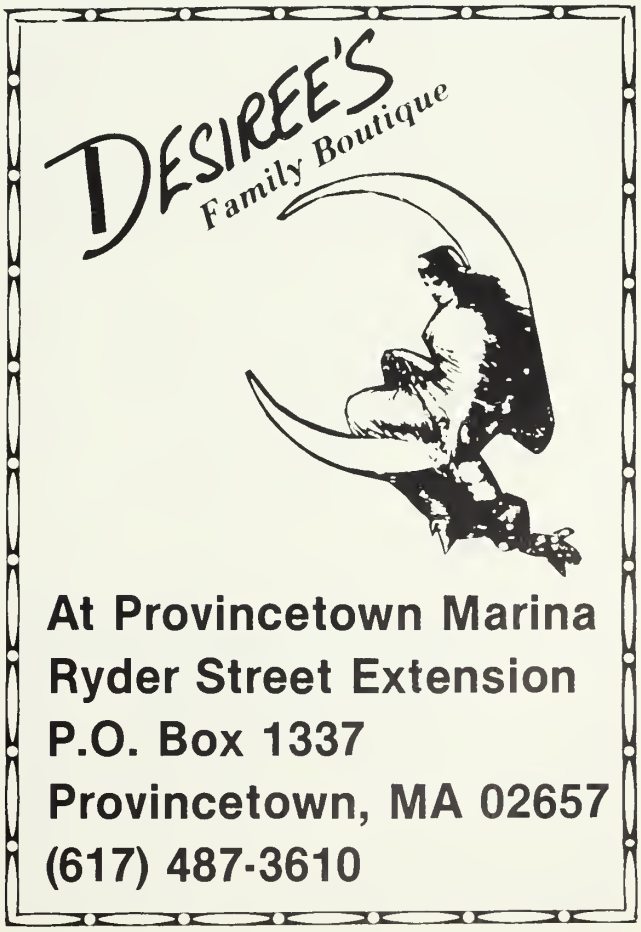
Biber says he's changed twin sisters into brothers, changed three brothers in one family into sisters, given a male U.S. Army sergeant breasts and even changed a 74-year-old widower into a widow.

"He'd waited years for his own wife to die," says Biber, "and he wanted to die a woman. That was ten years ago and she's still going, the last I heard."

Biber's patients are "a cross section, people from all over the world" he says, listing a prima ballerina in a Venezuelan dance company, showgirls in Paris and Las Vegas, even a few Playboy bunnies. Some of his ex-patients hold federal jobs in Washington, and he claims to have worked on some "very well-known people. You'd know 'em if I told you."

"My work is the cat's whiskers, the state of the art," says Biber. "You simply can't tell. Most of my patients can fool their gynecologists." Which is just what Biber claims

continued on page 68



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happened when one of his formerly male patients wound up marrying her gynecologist.

"I thought she should tell him," shrugs Biber, who suggests to all his patients that they be honest, even though he knows some aren't.

"There's no reason to tell anyone," counters Kristina, 35, a tall blonde who was Kenneth until five years ago. "I'm finally myself," she adds, "but if you tell people, they react like you're a freak."

Kristina was back in Trinidad for a routine check-up. Her story is not atypical. "When I was 4, I told my parents God had made a mistake. I wasn't a boy, I only looked like one."

As Kenneth, he struggled through a confusing childhood and puberty, a female mind trapped in a male body. His parents were no help. Psychiatrists finally diagnosed him as a transsexual. He was referred to Johns Hopkins and eventually sent to Biber.

Recommendations are not enough for Biber. He demands that prospective patients undergo at least a year of psychiatric evaluation, as well as counseling in a a gender identification program conducted at several universities. He also requires a year of hormone injections and cross-dressing, with patients wearing the clothes and playing the role of the sex they want to become.

"We want to weed out the wackos and schizophrenics," says Biber. Even then, he will refuse to operate if a patient has any last-minute doubts. In the case of the Army sergeant, Biber implanted breasts, which were removed later when the soldier reconsidered.

"I make the final decision myself," says Biber. "After 15 years, I can tell when someone's ready."

After 15 years, Trinidad has gotten used to Biber's special patients. Although transsexual operations are only 20 percent of his practice, those patients have become an important part of Trinidad's economy. With mines closed and the Colorado Fuel & Oil Co. shut down, almost half of the town's population receives welfare and a large percentage are on Medicare or Medicaid. In a town close to dying, Biber's patients may be the only visitors.

"They are good for business, and everyone knows it," says Biber. "They pay cash when they come in," adds Don Caughron, administrator at Mt. San Rafael Hospital. Besides that, prospective patients stay at the local hotel, eat in the local cafe, buy clothes at the local store and get their hormone prescriptions filled at the local pharmacy. Economics has overcome most moral qualms.

But Trinidad is not simply a mercenary place. Sister Rosemary, another nun in Trinidad and a lifetime female, calls Biber "extraordinary, gentle and kind. I don't know what the town would do without him. Doctors won't come here because we're so poor.

"And his patients," continues the sister, "are lovely, gentle, ordinary people. They come here all alone and scared to death. We just try to make things easier for them by letting them know that someone cares."

"We have a nice, quiet hospital

continued on page 69

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where patients don't feel like a number," says Biber. "The personnel care aboaut these people, and everyone here is geared to these operati8ons. Patients are protected and comforted.

"I have a reputation for putting out a good product," he adds. "Some doctors charge more than $16,000 for this operation and do a lousy job. I have no interest in getting rich. These are my people."

Biber charges about $3,000 for the basic surgery, including breast implants and the creation of a vagina after removal of the penis on a male-to-female operation. Some patients require a facelift, plastic surgery to remove the Adam's apple, eyebrow lift, ear surgery, belly tucks, or hip augmentations, which are provided at additional cost. The eight-day hospitalization costs another $3,000.

Only 50 or 60 of Biber's patients have been changed from female to male. "It's a complicated and experimental procedure," he says. "Frankly, it's easier to take it off than put it on. I make it very clear to prospective patients that this operation is nowhere near as routine as male to female."

With such a busy practice, Biber might easily be the richest man in Trinidad. His success in his isolated domain has also earned him the envy and grudging respect of other physicians.

"Most hospitals that once performed such operations have given them up," says Dr. John Whitesel, a urologist who is president of the Colorado Medical Society. Another urologist, Dr. Robert Donohue of the University of Colorado Medical School, adds, "I wouldn't perform such surgery, because I think the problem is psychological. I suspect most doctors feel the same way. but Dr. Biber must be doing a good job. We don't see any of his patients up here with any complications."

"Apparently he's got the procedure down pat," says Dr. Joseph Pointer, a president of the Society of Urologists in Colorado. "Dr. Biber's pretty damn good, which galls me since he's not board-certified, even though that's not too unusual for doctors in smaller towns. Anyhow, I came to a hearing about him a few years back armed to get him. But the man's done his work. His records are complete. And most important, there are no complaints lodged against him for malpractice."

"My patients get married and divorced just like the rest of us," says Biber. "We turn unhappy people into good, tax-paying citizens. Their careers improve, they blend into society, 25 percent even adopt children when they marry. I must be doing something right."

Biber's done right enough so that the eldest of of his seven children is himself a urologist. And the patients keep making the pilgrimage to Trinidad. "After 15 years, I've given up arguing about the morality of such operations," says Biber. "None of my patients has ever complained. Let's face it, if an operation like this didn't work out, everybody would have heard about it."

- END -

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PERSONAL LISTINGS

How to respond to a Personal Listing:

1.) If the address is given, write directly to that address.

2.) If the address is Name & Membership #, follow these directions exactly:

A.) Place your letter in a stamped envelope. (No unstamped mail will be forwarded).

B.) Pencil in the name and membership # of the person to whom the letter is meant. (i.e. 'Merissa Lynn NH-0001). We need to be able to erase the identifying name and replace it with the forwarding name. Therefore, no letter with the identifying name in ink will be forwarded).

C.) Place that letter inside another envelope and mail to

"Tiffany Club,"
P.O. Box 19
Wayland, MA 01778.

****

MERISSA SHERRILL LYNN (New Hampshire)
Executive Sectretary Tiffany Club
Editor TV/TS Tapestry

SWM TV, 42, 6', 200, BA philosophy, athletically oriented (pro skier 8 years), ACBL (bridge player) life master, enjoy singing, and love the wilderness, the flowers, and listening to the birds sing. The objective I strive for both for myself and others is good health, happiness, and peace of mind.

"I'm a very caring person, and prefer to work on behalf of others. (I'm your basic TV missionary.) Unfortunately it's very difficult for me to keep up with personal correspondance. However, I do want to meet people who are interested in taking a leadership role in the TV/TS Community. So, if you are a leader-type person and willing to put out some effort to help others, write to me, or better, give me a call. (If you happen to be female, and also a very nice person, you can write or call aa well.

Merissa Sherrill Lynn, Box 19, Wayland MA 01778 (617)358-5575

****

Barbara B. (NY-0258)

Merissa L. (NH-0001)

****

AUDREY M (Eastern MA)
Secretary, Mayflower Society

MWM bi-TV, 50, 155, 5'10, nice, intelligent, well adjusted, sense of humor. Enjoys current events, music, sailing, photography, woodworking. Would like to have a few TV friends for caaual get-togethers; freedom limited to weekdays 9-6.

Neil Moses, Sec. Mayflower Society, Box 66, Allston, MA 02134

****

AMANDA J (Central Connecticut)
Member Tri Ess, GGA

MWM hetero TV 48, 5'9. Like music, muaeuma, theater, old cars and economics. I am pleasant, passable, prim and proper when dressed. Prefer one-on-one situations rather than large gatherings.

Amanda J (CT-0290)

****

****

LEE ARSNAL (Central ME)
Member Albany TVIC

MWM 5'10, 175. Enjoys jogging, skiing, hunting, fishing, motorcycles, and also indoor sports. Wants to learn more about being a woman. Would love to correspond with others who share her interests. Will answer all.

Lee Arsnal (ME-0247)

****

DANIELLE D (Southern NH)
Tiffany General Member

Pre-op TS, 5'11, 150, 30. Interests include music (hard rock and blues), sports, and good times with good friends. Would like to establish friendships and correspondence with TS community.

Danielle D., c/o Box 19, Wayland MA 01778

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SARA LEE ROBERTS (Central MA)

Hetero TV, 43, 5'8, attractive, pleasant, quiet. Enjoys music, high fashion, and cooking (especially with natural foods). Would like to correspond and possibly meet people with similar interests.

Sara Lee Roberts (MA-0491)

****

MARY D. SULLIVAN (Boston, MA)

TV, possible TS. Tall, caring, warm,good sense of humor. Likes to go out. Enjoys movies, plays, sports, comedy & exercise.

"I would like to meet friends who like all of the above, & who would give me as much encouragement as I with them. Would also like transportation to Tiffany's. Will share expenses."

Mary Sullivan (MA-0502)

****

****

SUSAN C. HUXFORD (Ontario CAN)
Information distribution Canada
Executive Director FACT, Director GenderServe Counselling, Research and Educational Seravices.
Member SSSS, ABIGCA
TS (post-op), old enough to have retired, 6', talkative, didactic and may prove intimidating. Interested in interpersonal relationships, serious music, choral music (participation), trying not to be overworked.
Susan C. Huxford, c/o Box 291, Station 'A', Hamilton, Ontario Canada L8N-3C8 (416) 529-7884

****

TERRI DOWNS (Nevada)
Member Tri Ess, GGA, Albany TVIC
Participant DREAM, Shangri-La West
Auburn hair, grey eyes, size 16/18, 5'11, 170 lbs. Loves flying, country music and strings, is a book collector and history buff. Loves to dress. "Would love to meet other TV/TS girls and will take girls out to see Vegas. Will answer all. A picture is appreciated, but not necessary."
Terri Downs, Box 4116, N. Las Vegas NV 89030-0116

****

KAREN V (Northern New Jersey)
Tiffany General Member
SWM hetero TV, 38, 5'8, 155, good personality and sense of humor. Adventouress. "A classical music nut, Ialso enjoy card & word games, karate (black belt),skiing, and gourmet food. I would like to meet women who share some of these interests and are open minded about the cross dressing scene.
Karen V (NJ-0347)

****

MURIAL E. (Delaware)
Member Tri Ess
Hetero, 5'8, retired. Has been crossdressing many many years. Loves to visit. Enjoys model building, and photography.
Murial E. (DE-0475)

****

Mary Lou H. (CAN-0440)

****

DEE DEE W (Hartford CT)
I'd like the girls at Tiffany
Who like to write,
To write to me.
A photograph, a kindly note
Will make me say,
"I'm glad she wrote."
Dee Dee W (CT-0002)

****

SHERRY LORRAINE (Eastern MA)
Tiffany Keyholder member
Participant: Tiffany's Spring Outing, Lee Brewster's P-town Outing '83
WM, 38, red hair, blue eyes, 5'9 in heels, fair complexion and an easy going personality. Enjoys motorcycle touring, skiing, computers, walks along the ocean, and dancing. "I enjoy passing in public, making new friends, traveling, shopping and girl to girl chants on makeup, dress and mannerisms."
Sherry Lorraine, c/o Box 19, Wayland MA 01778

****

CARLA E. GOLDSNIDER (Central CT)
SWM hetero TV 52, 5'10, quiet, not pushy, very understanding, lives alone. Enjoys dressing as a female, meeting TVs and especially females for girl talk, etc, going out in public, and country music. "Would like very much to meet a true female, who would enjoy going out in public as two girls. Told by others that I pass very well. (P.S. During summer months I'm sorry I do not have time to dress very often.)"
Carla E. Goldsnider, 3741 South st., Coventry CT 06238 (would appreciate photo with 1st letter)

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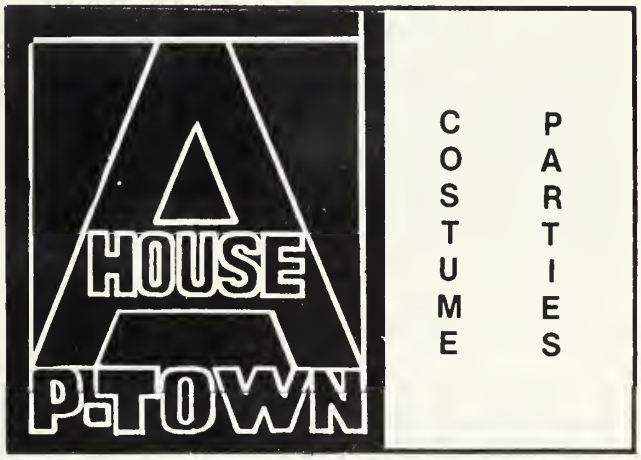
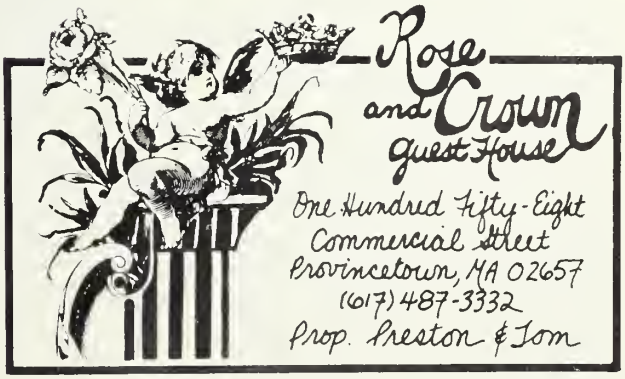
Dee Dee W. (CT-0002)





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HELEN T (Southern NH)
Tiffany General Member
Participant Fantasia Fair, Tiffany's Weekend
MWM TV, 46, 5'11. Recently out of the closet. Hope to make social contacts in the TV Community.
Helen T, c/o Box 19, Wayland MA 01778

****

ELAINE WILLEY (Michigan)
Information Distribution Upper Midwest
Membera Tri Ess, Albany TVIC, Crossrosds, Paradise Club. (Involved in the leadership of the latter two groups.)
Participant Fantasia Fair, Tiffany's Weekend
Awarded F/F 'Miss Femininity'
Hetero TV (possibly TG), 48, single. Interested in classical music (especially opera), hi-fi, fashion, psychology, and philosophy. "I do not seek extensive personal correspondence, but will answer requests for information .Y and will meet with people in my area who wish to attend meetings."
Elaine Willey, c/o Crossroads, Box 1298, Flint, MI 48501

****

MALINDA LEE ANDERSON (Wisconsin)
Member The Wisconsin Network
Participant Fantasia Fair, Tiffany's Weekend
1st Runner-up Miss Provincetown
TV, 34, wishes to meet gentlemen and competent TVs in the Midwest or Boston area. Have extensive TV experience. Main interests are erotica and the historical/cultural aspects of crossdressing.
Malinda A. (WI-0284)

****

RENEE CARROLL (Southeast CT)
Member GGA, Albany TVIC
Participant Tiffany's Weekend '82, Fantasia Fair, Shangri La, DREAM '83
SWM hetero TV, 40, 6'+. Interests range from American history to the causes of transgenderism. Also enjoy cooking, travel and outdoor pursuits, photography, and the feminine gender role.
Miss Renee Carroll, Box 231, Stratford CT 06497

****

WINNIE BRANT (Northern New York)
Member: Albany TVIC, Tri Ess
Participant: Fantasia Fair, DREAM
Awards: Miss Fantasia Fair
Hetero TV, 52, 6'2, a lady. Have many interest, scientific and culturally oriented. Love to travel.
Mr Winton Brant, Box 741, Schenectady NY 12301

****

SHARON MC. (Southeast MA)
Tiffany Club General Member
Participant, Fantasia Fair
WM TV, 30, 5'6", 140. Enjoys everything feminine. "I'm shy but trying to be more open, especially with my crossdressing. I'm a non-drinker. I'm looking for the help and support of the TV/TS Community to better understand mysle, and would like to meet other TVs & TSs and women for shopping, travel, photos and fun."
Sharon Mc., c/o P.O. Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

****

Kelly Ann S. (WI-0527)

****

JANICE HEUKLOM (S.E. Massachusetts)
Member Tri Ess, Albany TVIC
Participant Fantasia Fair
59, 5'6, 150, divorced. Enjoys country music, movies and nice restaurants. Wants to meet other TVs to assist her in understanding herself.
Janice H (MA-0254)

****

****

KATHY LEE (Georgia)
Participant Fantasia Fair 82 & 83
Hetero crossdresser, 5'10, divorced, 39. Enjoys running, camping, hiking, and unusual trips. "I have learned the most about myself over the last three years. I enjoy sharing and discussing the positive possibilities of our 'hobby'." "I am so glad to have found all of you."
Kathy Lee (GA-0401)

****

HOLLY CROSS (East/Central MA)
Tiffany General member
Participant Tiffany's P-town Weekend, Lee Brewster's P-town Weekend
SWM TV, 60, size 22 tall. Is a radio ham, and classical music buff. Enjoys cooking (not well), sewing, snorkeling, walking the dog, and chasing clothing markdowns. "I'm looking for friends to meet when I'm in Orange County CA. I'd also be glad to talk by phone."
Holly Cross, c/o Box 19, Wayland MA 01778

****

BARBARA MILES (Eastern MA)
WM, TS, 6'2", 35, attractive. Enjoys fashion, skiing, being a total woman. "I would like to meet other TVs or TSs on a one to one basis to share mutual interests, and love of the female side of me.
Barbara Miles, Box 68, Needham, MA 02192

****

Malinda A. (WI-0284)

****

PAT C. (New Hampshire)
BiWM, 30, attractive, slim, bearded, intelligent. Enjoys jazz, Japanese art, germane conversation. "I would like to meet attractive, feminine TV/TS's for fun."
Pat C. (NH-0195)

****

MELISSA S. (Southeast MA)
MWM, 6'2", good looking, well proportioned, 37, educated. Love sheer lingerie, high heels and just being a woman. "I seek correspondence and/or meeting with understanding females who can assist me with make-up,clothes selection, any basic support, etc., during my new transition."
Melissa S (MA-0506)

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ALICE J. MILLARD (Florida [winter], North Central NY [summer])
Information Distribution for Mid-Gulf Coast, and Upper New York
Member Tri-Ess, Albany TVIC, Chi Delta Mu, Mid-Gulf Coast
Participant Fantasia Fair, Shangri-La
Awards: Miss Congeniality F/F
Mature, life-long active TV, pleasant with outgoing personality. Very sincere. Interested in meeting other friendly, sincere TVs for friendship and informal TV gatherings. Co-sponsors informal monthly TV parties from New Orleans to Panama City, FLA. during winter months. "Our group is a non-affiliation social group open to Mid-Gulf Coast TVs."
Alice J. Millard, Box 2355, Pensacola, FL 32513 (Nov - Apr), Box 264, Cooperstown, NY 13326 (May - Oct)
****

****

MARY LOU H (Western Canada)
Participant: Fantasia Fair, Joyce Dewhursts's Poconos Weekend
Member Tri Ess
Hetero TV, 5'8, SWM 60, size 12. Professional musician and composer, loves nature, concerts, drama, museums, travelling. Stylish dresser, good fashion taste, has makeup troubles. Will meet fine TVs and understanding girls/ladies. "I need only makeup training."
Mary Lou H (CAN-0440)

****

JUDY LEIGH S (Northeast MA)
Tiffany General Member
Married TV, 45, 5'4, pleasant, shy. I enjoy all sports & travel & dance music, plus just having a good time with good friends. I like to get dressed & go for rides to visit other friends.
Judy S. c/o Box 19, Wayland MA 01778

****

PAT S. (Philadelphia, PA)
Member: GGA
5'-11 1/2", 230, Cau., extrovert & good sense of humor. Interested in reading, chess, swimming, writing, communications, an exchanging of ideas, customs, etc.
"I am interested in building a foundation of companionship and trust, a friendship of togetherness in mind, body and spirit and expression, blanketed with understanding and appreciation."
Pat S. (PA-0509)
****

ESTHER LOUISE R. (Washington)
Member GGA, Albany TVIC
Participant DREAM '83
Hetero TV, 74, and can get along with anybody who isn't a liar or a thief. Interested is social contacts, radio maintainance, flying (ex-pilot), music (plays the organ), and cooking.
"Christoper Morley once said, 'There is only one success -- to spend your life in your own way.' That is what I would like. To spend my life in my own way." L.E. Randle (WA-0285)

****

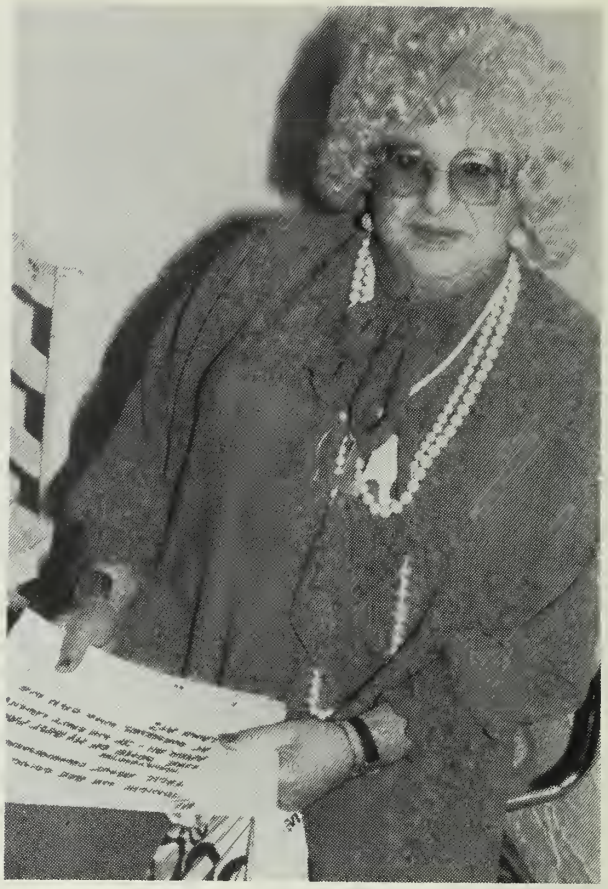
CAROLYN COOPER (Georgia)
WM TV, 28, 180. Interested in correspondence with other TVs to echange views and information.
"I have been dressing since I was 8, but am just finding out about the TV scene now. I'm still a closet Tv but hopeto meet others to help me out."
Carolyn Cooper (GA-0513)

****

LORA W. (Philadelphia, PA)
Member: Tri-Ess, Chi Delta Mu
MWM, 69, 6'1", 195. Hetero. Enjoys model building, crewel & needlepoint.
"Will correspond with those who are sincere, have a nice wardrobe, and enjoy dressing."
Lora W. (PA-0414)
****

CONNIE RANE (Western PA)
Member GGA
SWM TV, 5'-8", 155, 34, brown hair, brown eyes. Enjoys skiing, back packing, & country music.
"Am very interested in corresponding with and meeting other crossdressers, especially in the Pittsburg area."
Connie Rane, Box 465, Indiana, PA 15701
****

Laura C. (CA-0480)



Naomi O. (IL-0257)

****

JULIE COOK (Eastern Massachusetts)

SWM, 36, 5'9", 150, brown hair & eyes. Interested in transvestite activities, camping, movies, some rock concerts.

"I would like to meet a male or female for understanding friendship,. or long term relationship."

Julie C (MA-0535)

****

BARBARA N. (Western NY)

35, married, 5'11", 165, brown hair & eyes; some electrlysis, no hormones. Enjoys shopping for clothes/shoes, movies, listening to music.

"I've been crossdressing for 25 years, but have very little contact with other TV-TSs. I'm not passable yet, butwith encouragement and practice I will be. I'm interested in meeting other married TVs to share exciting times wtih crossdressing. I have an extensive wardrobe that I would love to share."

Occupant, P.O. Box 1803, Rochester, NY 14603

****

BELLE D. (Northeast MA)

Artist. Does not "pass", but integrates feminine ways into life. would identify with isolation feelings. Interested in matters of social concern, visual, and culinary pursuits. Would be willing to correspond with totally honest, candid persons.

Belle D. (MA-0237)

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IRIS HANNA (Southeast PA)

Member: GGA (Phi Chapter)

Participant: Fantasia Fair '83

6', 150, Size 12. Interested in architecture, boating, fine crystal, porcelain, & other objects of beauty. Also enjoys dancing and listening to music.

"I prefer the feminine side of my personality. I'm straight forward, and like the finer things in life. Although I'm outgoing, I tend to be on the quieter side."

Iris H. (PA-0522)

****

LAURA R. COVINGTON (Northern CA)

Member GGA, Tri Ess, Shangri-La

MBM, hetero, 35, 5'8". Attractive, pleasant, understanding. Interested in contacting TVs and women. "I have many interest, and will answer all."

Laura R. Covington, P.O. Box 10431, Oakland, CA 94610

****

DEE SMITH (Maryland)

DWM hetero TV, 50, 5'10", caring, considerate, happy with life, and likes people. Enjoys boating, limited night life, and occasionally a meal in plush surroundings.

"In my work I spend a lot of time by my self so I do a lot of reading, am self-disciplined enough to accept myself as I am - but adventurous and can accept challenges."

Dee Smith (MD-0516)

****

Judy S. (MA-0123

****

JOAN MARIE GREY (Los Angeles CA)

Member: Tri Ess, GGA, Shangri-La, Outreach Institute

49 year old part time TV, 5'11, 180. Interested in being a woman, enjoys the theater, books, cooking, and model railroading.

"I wish to be able to dress more often and to go to TV functions."

Joan Grey (CA-0532)

****

Eileen C. (OH-0486)

Ellen S. (OR-0382)

****

KELLY ANN S. (Wisconsin)
Member: Wisconsin TV Network
Tall, attractive TV, dark hair, green eyes, long legs. Owns 'Van James Photography'. Interests include photography, makeup, stand up comedy and community theatre.
"I am a professional portrait photographer specializing in feminine glamour. I love the sophisticated feminine look. All my efforts as a TV go into passing. I love nylons & heels. I'm seeking friendship and idea sharing with other TVs, TSs, & GGs.
Kelly Ann Schoonover, Box 811, Waukesha, WI 53187-0811
****

JAIME R. (Rhode Island)
Member: Halcyon Society
TV (possibly TS), 5'10", 145, brown eyes and hair. Enjoys rock & roll and country music, gardening, and fishing.
"I would like to make friends with other TVs and TSs, and learn more about my femme side."
Jaime R. (RI-0300)
****

TRACY ANN WOOLDRIDGE (Chicago IL)
Member: Windy City Chapter GGA
Participant: Tiffany's Holiday Outing
Ex-professional impersonator (a little bit crazy), 5'7", 165, great legs! Enjoys dancing, music, passing in public, reading, and making and meeting friends.
Tracy W (IL-0531)
****

****

EVELYN BORDON (Kansas)
Member: GGA, Tri-Ess
Tall, sensitive TV in mid 30's trying hard to pass really well, sensitive and require discretion, go slow approach. Interests: Finding friendly shops, going out dressed witha genuine lady to accompany me. Also interested in exploring new areas of crossdressing.
"Would like to explore electrolysis and hormones. Would also like to see an article on artificial nails, application, sources, etc. Would like to get more information on transgender lifestyle and more interest in my local area."
Evelyn Bordon (KS-04044)

****

JACKIE MCDONALD (Southern NH)
Member: Tiffany General Member
Participant: Joyce Dewhurst's Poconos Weekend, Tiffany's P-town Outing
WM crossdresser, 40ish, 6'1", 180, reasonably attractive.
wimming, needlework, woodwork, micro computers. Loves shopping, long walks & Koffee Klatching. Also, is very interested in helping people.
"I reside in southern NH, & would like to meet individuals with similar interests."
Jackie McDonald, c/o Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778
****

****

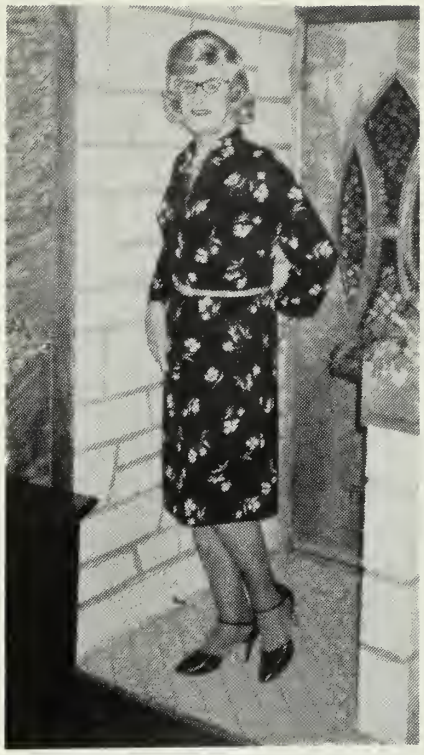
ROI A. (New Jersey)
Member GGA
Black, 35, 6'5", 200. Interested in the outdoors, flowers, old cars, and becoming more feminine.
"I would very much like to meet friends, to be me, and live happily ever after."
Roi A. (NJ-0550)

****

CAROLYN JENNINGS (Greater Boston MA)
SWM hetero TV, 32, 6', attractive, sensitive, perfectionist. Interested in music, travelling, women's shoes, and beautiful legs.
"I enjoy going out on the town, and being with women. I would like to meet other TVs, especially those that have a fetish for shoes."
Carolyn Jennings (MA-0541)

****

SUSAN A. (Southeast MA)
Participant: Fantasia Fair
WM TV, 37, 5'7", 150. Has been crossdressing and loving it for twenty years now. Considered passable and attractive. Loves collecting and wearing all kinds of feminine clothing, especially lingerie.
"I would enjoy corresponding with and meeting other TVs with similar interests. Please write!"
Susan A. (MA-0064)
****



Lora W. (PA-0414)

****

VICTORIA RICHARDS (North Carolina)
WM, 26,, 6'. Very sincere, honest person, affectionate and caring of other people.
Interests: Photography, painting, music, all outdoor sports. Loves to go shopping.
"I would very much like to attend Crossdressers Outings in the future. I would also like to meet other TV/TSs in my area."
Victoria Richards (NC-0552)

****

TERENCE S (Rhode Island)
F-M TS, 18, 5'2, blonde hair, blue eyes, very shy.
Interests: Music, dancing, sailing, skiing.
"I would like to hear from other TSs and TVs, and would especially like to correspond with another TS."
Terence S (RI-0564)

****

JENNIFER S (So. Central Maine)
Participant: Fantasia Fair
MWM, 6'1", can wear size 16, dresses conservatively.
Interests: Music, and winter sports.
"I like to be as feminine as possible. I'm interested in possibly meeting other TVs in south central Maine for dressing and improving feminine image."
Jennifer S (ME-0021)

****

KAY GOULD (Northern CA)
Member: GGA, Tri Ess, Paradise Club
Attractive and outgoing. Loves the femme life, and loves to date and travel to many cities where she appreciates escorts and company. Very accomplished, and frequently travels dressed. Enjoys high fashion, good music, and paraculture friends. Writes a monthly column called 'Kay's Way' for a TV newspaper, and generally has a positive view of TVs.
Kay Gould, c/o Kay's Way, Box 255, Sacramento, CA 95802

****

SARAH-ANNE DENTON (Florida)
Life-time TV, 70 (retired), 5'6", 163, light brown hair.
Interests: Antiques, flea markets, model RR, reading and traveling.
Will answer all.
Sarah-Anne Denton, P.O. Box 8931, Naples, FL 33941

****

BARBARA FARMER (Boston MA)
Participant: Susanna Valenti's NY Weekends
WM, mid-forties, very tall.
Interests: Photography, video, TV fiction, model railroad collector.
"I would like to meet friends for shared interests, companionship, fiction exchange, and pleasant dinners. No Drugs!"
Barbara Farmer (MA-0557)

****

TERRI K (New York City, NY)
Young, interesting, dynamic, amateur TV.
Interests: Meeting other young discreet TVs who can help me realize my feminine side through clothing and make-up.
Terri K (NY-0554)

****

PAULA A. (Southeast, New York)
MWM closet TV (approx 35 yrs), 55, 5'9", 170, medium build, conservative in dress and manner. Non-smoker. Enjoys carpentry, photography, writing, shopping, and dining fully dressed.
Paula A (NY-0534)

****

KAREN K (New Jersey)
Member: Delta Chi Mu Chapter Tri-Ess, GGA
SWM hetro TV, 41, 5'9", 182. Pleasant personality who enjoys meeting people. Interested in photography, camping & hiking, running, all sports, good instrumental music, reading, & stamp collecting.
"I enjoy writing and meeting with sisters. I also travel a great deal. I also enjoy going out dressed, but I'm careful."
Karen K (NJ-0322)

****

DONNA WALLACE (Southern NH)
Tiffany General Member
6'2, MWM TV, 38, brown hair, blue eyes, light complexion. "I'm interested in improving my female transformation through fashion, make-up & mannerisms. I enjoy all sports, music, and motorcycles. I'm just coming out, and seek discreet contacts only. Will respond to all letters A.S.A.P."
Donna Wallace, c/o Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

****

HEIDI W. (SW Florida)
Member: Tiffany General Member
WM TV, 76, 5'6", 155-160, demure, a bit shy, has some physical gynandromorphism. Loves cross-dressing, beautiful clothes, hen parties, and girl talk.
"I would love to get to know other TVs who are fond of the above."
Heidi W (FL-0540)

****

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****

JENNIFER O. (Minnisota)
Member: GGA, Tri Ess
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Outing

SWM hetero TV, 37, 6'2", 37, 175. Better than average looking, well adjusted, professionally employed. Enjoys cross-dressing, playing the organ and piano, taking care of my dog, and playing racquetball.

"I hope to start a social group in Minneapolis-St Paul. I have a wonderful girlfriend who enjoys my cross-dressing, and is a Tapestry subscriber."

Jennifer O. (MN-0570)

****

JOSEPHINE LOPEZ (Louisiana)
5'5", 140, Hispanic. Interests: Running, tennis. Loves everything feminine, especially high heels & dresses.

"I would love to have TV-TS friends to get together with for ladies talk."

Josephine Lopez, Box 51214, New Orleans, LA 70151

****

SUSAN M. (Ontario Canada)
MWM bi-TV, 5'11", 158. Enjoys dance music, reading, writing letters, and lingerie.

"I would like to learn more about being a woman and would love to correspond with others who share her interests. Will answer all."

Susan M (CAN-0510)

****

Valarie V. (MA-276)

****

JANICE HILARY (Texas)
MWM lifelong TV. mid 50s, 5'9", 165 (and losing). "I'm a rather shy and reserved lady who passes well and really enjoys wearing tastefull fashions appropriate to my age at every opportunity. My many interests include cooking, travle, music (listening to classical, play sax in concert band) auto sports, photography (I'm a former pro) and most of all, jkust being janice. I'm not a great correspondant but will promise to try very hard to make timelyreplies to any letters. I would also appreciate your photo if you have one."

Janice H (TX-0567)

****

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* *Organizational Development*
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NIELA MILLER — P.O. Box 285
617/264-4565 — Lexington, MA 02173

*(*** Niela is a counselor and educator who has done individual and couples counseling with TVs as well as support groups for wives and TV couples for both the Tiffany Club and the Outreach Institute. Niela has been doing consulting, teaching and counseling for fifteen years, and is President of People-Systems Potential, a company specializing in organizational development, training design and personal/professional consulting.)*

****

BARBARA B (Long Island, NY)
Member: NYC GGA
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Outing, Joyce Dewhurst's Poconos Weekends
Awards: Poconos 'Miss Poise' (twice), Poconos 'Miss Realistic'

MWM TV, 44, 5'10", slim. Likes to be helpful, is thoughtful, courteous, honest & discreet. Values trustworthiness & dependability. Enjoys classic fashions, all kinds of music, dancing, parties, & pen pals. Loves women & all things feminine.

"I would enjoy meeting and writing to other sensible sisters."

Barbara B (NY-0258)

****

BARBARA SHERWOOD (Delaware)
Member: GGA Phi Chapter, Tri Ess
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Outing

DWM, 40's, tall & slender, good appearance. Have been told I have great legs! Enjoy high fashion, cooking, reading, travel.

"I love correspondence with other sisters, meetings when possible."

Barbara Sherwood, P.O. Box 315, Milford, DE 19963

****

TERRI J (Eastern MA)
Tiffany General member

M-F TS, 30, 5'8", brown hair, brown eyes, shy, self-conscious, and would like to meet and make friends with other TSs, TVs, and females who can help me to improve my mannerisms and makeup skills and go out in public dressed. Interested in wood working, movies, swimming, bowling, music, dressing, drives in the country and I have a good sense of humor. So if you're not doing anything, let's get together.

Terri J, c/o Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

****

Johnnie D. (PA-0448)

****

ANDREA G. (Central Connecticut)
Member: Tri Ess

"I am a 45 year old married heterosexual TV, slim, friendly. I'm interested in sports, reading, theater, music, good food, getting together with a small group of friends. I would like to get to know others who share my interest in crossdressing."

Andrea G. (CT-0579)

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****

ANGELIQUE (ANGIE) G. BRUMMELL (S. CA.)
Angie describes herself as strong, pretty/handsome, graceful, morally strong, and honest. Interested in ballet and jazzercise, and obtaining information on transvestism, transsexualism and bondage.
Angelique B. (CA-0578)
****

JANET LOUISE B. (S.E. MA., R.I.)
Secretary, Halcyon Society of RI
Member: Halcyon Society
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Outing

SWM, TV, 33, 5'11", in stocking'ed feet. Conservative in dress & deed. Enjoys music, photography, computers.
"Our name 'Halcyon' implies our wishes for peace, happiness and prosperity for all our friends. Halcyon days indeed! Won't you come and join us?"
Janet B., c/o Halcyon Society, Box 143, North Ki8ngston, RI 02852
****

CHERYL A. MCBRIDE (Northern NY)
Information Distribution for Northern NY
Member: GGA
MWM, 33, 5'7", 145. Interests: X-C skiing, photography, carping, dancing (top 40 & ballroom), lively parties & meeting people.
"I'm comfortable & passable in most public situations. I'm very interested in helping others, & public education about our culture. I'm a good & open listener, and want to make more friends near Albany to go out dressed with.
Cheryl A. McBride, Box 6047, Albany, NY 12206
****

MEREDITH W. (New Jersey)
SWM, bi-TV, 27. Tends to be shy. Interested in chess, history, astronomy, archaeology, card games, candlelite dinners, and long walks on the beach. Also interested in hearing from any TV or TS (especially TVs my own age) for mutual help, support, and riendship.
"I tend to be self-conscious, and mistrustful of others. Even so, I try to listen, and help if I can. I think what I need is proof that there are others such as myself. Will answer all promptly."
Meredith W. (NJ-0519)
****

VIKI MC. (Eastern MA)
Bi TV, 37, 5'10", 180. Enjoys fashion, movies, dancing, quiet romantic evenings.
"I'd like to meet experienced TVs with similar interests to help bring me out."
Viki Mc (MA-0580)
****

JOHNNIE D (Pittsburg, PA)
Member: Paradise Club, Transpitt
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Outing, Lee Brewster's P-town Outing, Paradise Weekend, Joyce Dewhurst's Poconos Weekend
MWM, 36, 5'5". Passes very well (has spent an entire weekend dressed in NYC with no problems). Loves travel, shopping, dressing, theater, music, and dancing.
"I am beginning a group in Pittsburgh. Any TV in the Tri-State area can contact me for information through Tiffany."
Johnnie D. (PA-0448)
****

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****

MICHELLE H. (Boston, MA)
WM TV/TS, 27, 5'9", 145. Attractive and passes well in public.
"My intersts are films, theatre, travel, all kinds of music, fashions, politics and all feminine things. I lead a very busy and full life and want to meet other TV/TSs who are positive people and enjoy their femininity. I am very understanding, caring, sensitive and supportive. Will answer all replies. Please write if you are sincere."
Michelle H. (MA-0576)
****

CONNIE N. (Western NY)
Member: GGA, Tri Ess, Crossroads Chapter, Paradise Club, Beaumont Society
MWM TV, 5'5", 123. A plain, ordinary, dull hetero-male crossdresser, with a very supportive wife. Likes clean cut, attractive clothes and pretty heels. Loves to correspond and exchange photos and general chit-chat. All letters promptly answered.
C.M. Nichols, Box 0734, Jamestown, NY 14702
****

PAM VAN BUREN (Northern NY)
Participant: Fantasia Fair '81, '82, '83
TV, 32, 5'8", 130, brown hair, blue eyes, quiet, caring and good humored.
Enjoys skiing, sailing, making clothes, playing music, and being a woman as often as possible. Passes well and enjoys going out dressed.
"I'm interested in meeting and corresponding with people throughout the country, and especially in the Eastern New York - Western Massachusetts area."
Pam Van Buren (NY-0253)
****

CAMILE MC. (Southeast NY)
Member: Chi Delta Mu Chapter - Tri Ess
Hetero cross-dresser, 71, 5'10", 164, methodist, widower. Honest, & security conscious. Doesn't drink, smoke or gamble, loves & enjoys people, and lives by the old-fashioned 'golden rule' and a strict moral code.
Enjoys cross-dressing, & repairing things around the house. Loves C&W music, writes music & plays various instruments. Taught drumming.
"I'm just out of the closet and I love it. I'm a widower for 6 years, and would love to meet a nice woman who will accept me part time en femme, or better as 'sister companion', and sometimes as male companion."
C.A.M. Mc., Box 207, Pelham, NY 10803
****

KATHRYN GREALY (Southeast MA.)
MWM, 42, 5'9", 120, shy.
Enjoys embroidery and gardening. Would like to know how to sew & knit.
"I would like to meet a person on the South Shore (MA.) who can offer help & support in dress, make-up, & poise. I spend much time traveling the U.S.A.
Kathryn A. Grealy, Box 764, Bryantville, MA 02327
****

MELODY SUMMERS (Eastern MA)
SWM TV, 31 (looks 24), 5'6", 128. Attractive, educated, and easy-going. Folksinger. Interests include nature, nude beaches, real people, fashion, etc.
"I especially love shopping in my miniskirts. Would like to meet other girls of similar age, appearance, and interests."
Melody Summers (MA-0546)
****

Karen K. (NJ-0536)

Cheryl Mc. (NY-0350)

****

DANIELLE M (Southern CA)
SWM TV, 37, 5'9", 150, attractive, discrete and very sincere.
Interests: Music, professional photography, high heels & corsetry, and exploration of the feminine mystique.
"I enjoy friendships with other TVs/TSs through correspondence and meetings/photo exchange. I enjoy helping others with their makeup, photography & femme image."
Danielle, c/o John Moran Photography, P.O. Box 1108, So. Pasadena, CA 91030

****

JOAN V. (Boston, MA)
"I would like to dress more, and meet someone with whom I could dress (preferably in the Boston area). I'm told I'm good looking. Please contact me.
Joan V. (MA-0152)
****

LINDA JENSEN (Ontario, Canada)
Member: Gateway Gender Alliance, Transvestites Au Montreal, Beaumont Society
Hetero MWM TV, mid 30's.
Enjoys sports, cross-dressing, and dancing.
"My job and family responsibilities give me few chances to dress, so when I do, I do it with vigour. I can travel several times a year, and have been in drag in some of the world's great cities (including Boston)."
Linda Jensen, Box 15855 Sta. F, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1C-3S7
****

Terri S. (MI-0476)

JULIE LEWIS (Tuscon, Arizona)
Hetero TV, 6'1", 210, 33. College educated. Enjoys skiing, biking, tennis, & outdoors, esp. the mountains. Loves photography.
"Though only newly 'out' I'm willing to lend a hand or an ear to any in the AZ area needing such."
Julie Lewis, c/o Box 23113, Tucson, AZ 85734
****

TERRI SCOTT (Michigan)
Member: Crossroads Chapter
Personable gal who enjoys every aspect of her femininity. Loves to correspond with others who enjoy being feminine. Enjoys fashion, makeup, hairstyles, and the excitement of socializing as a female.
"I'm always interested in corresponding with others with similar interests. Let's girl talk."
Terri Scott, Box 728, Birmingham, MI 48012
****

RHONDA SOELLNER (Indiana)
Participant: 'Be All You Can Be Weekend'
44 (but looks 34), 5'11", 185. Dark brown hair, brown eyes, med complexion.
Enjoys sports, outdoors, dancing, parties, photography,trips, cards, movies, clubs.
"I am new to the scene as an open TV. Was in the closet for 30 years."
Rhonda Sollner, Box 4882, Evansville, IN 47711
****

****

KIM STEVENS (Illinois)
Member: Gateway Gender Alliance
Hetero SWM, 36, 6', 160, attractive, stylish, pleasant, & sincere.
Interested in all things feminine, make-up, high heels, & lingerie. Also, Photography, home computing, and flying (pilot).
"I'm interested in contacting pretty TVs, TSs, and women. I'm willing to share with and learn from others. Please include photo. Will answer all."
Kim Stevens, Box 817, Oak Lawn, IL 60454
****

PAULA KAY (Northeast New Hampshire)
32, 6', 170, brown hair, hazel eyes.
Enjoys warm weather fishjing, hunting, camping, the ocean, sexy lingerie, and getting out of the closet.
"I am down to earth, easy to get along with, and quiet. I am possibly bi, feminine when dressed, and want to meet other TVs for dressing together. Would also like to meet females and couples.
Paula Kay (NH-0596)
****

RITA F. (Southern California)
Member: Windy City Chapter - GGA, Paradise Club
Participant: Shangri-La, 'Be All You Can Be' Weekend
Open minded, loves all things feminine, especially high heels and nylons. Also enjoys fishing, engine building, art, music.
"I travel extensively, and would like to meet others interested in being fem."
Rita F. (CA-0600)
****

TAMMY ELIZABETH FOSS (Eastern MA)
Member: GGA
M-F TS, 5'3, 120, brown hair, hazel eyes. Passable, sensitive, loves music (from rock and roll to Bach).
Enjoys playing guitar, electronics, cooking, sewing, reading novels. Also enjoys movies, window shopping, quiet walks along the beach.
"I would like to correspond with othe M-F TSs. Will answer all correspondence."
Tammy Foss (MA-0589)
****

JEAN DANE (Virginia)
Member: GGA, Tri Ess, Outreach Institute, Better Living Institute
Participant: Fantasia Weekend (Wash. DC)
MWM, 5'11", 145. Can pass as a middle-aged woman. Enjoys travel, parties, meeting people, shopping, and going to restaurants while dressed. Have recently begun to spread my wings, after a long period in the closet. Would like to contact and meet with other TV/TSs, especially in the Washington DC area.
Ms Jean Dane, Box 15401, Arlington, VA 22215
****

SANDRA F. (Long Island, New York)
Member: GGA
Mid-op TS, 5'8", 170, early 60's, half whit/half dark hair, brown eyes.
Enjoys talking with people. Is heavily involved with archery - Olympic style competition (previously head of state association), and CC of Explorer Post.
Sandra F., Box 7301-A, Hicksville, NY 11801
****

Kay G. (CA-0323)

****

CHARLENE B. (Northern California)
Member: GGA, Tri Ess
5'8", 145, occasionally passible. Enjoys hugs, people, singing, acting, quiet music, cooking, fixing things.
"I'm a people person, warm, caringing, honest and non-judgemental. I'm interested in going out with other crossdressers, and will answer all."
Clancy Byrd, 780 Elm St, San Jose, CA 95126
****

SYLVIA C. (Southeast MA)
Member: Tri-Ess
6'2", grey hair, blue eyes, passable at times. Very serious about cross-dressing. Interested in meeting other TVs ("Hope my schedule will permit more in the future").
"I enjoy being a well-dressed girl, lingerie, nylons, high heels, etc. Would enjoy contacts in the Brockton MA area."
Sylvia C. (MA-0189)
****

SIOBHAN DONOVAN (South Shore, MA)
Member: Tiffany Club General Member
MWM, 34, 6'2", 240, life long cross-dresser. Enjoys C.B., computers, graphic arts, sewing, cooking, and of course cross-dressing.
Siobhan Donovan, c/o Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778
****

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ELLEN S. (Portland, Oregon)
Member: Northwest Chapter GGA
Participant: DREAM '78-'80-'83
Awards: 'Grand Dame' (DREAM '83)
Mid fifities, 5'10", 175.
Enjoys music (big band era), sports, phonograph - tapes and oather recording collecting.
"I am a very frolific correspondent. I will answer any letter from any sister. Since I travel quite a bit perhaps I could meet with some sisters in the Western U.S."
Ellen S., c/o NWGGA, Box 13173, Portland, OR 97213
****

NANCY S. (Louisiana)
Member: GGA, Shangri-La
Participant: Shangri-La
Single, 30, 5'7", 135, size 11, brunette, blue eyes, can pass.
Enjoys music, photography, travel, dancing, fashion, shopping and going out for fun.
"I would like to meet or correspond with other TV/TS sisters, ladies, or others interested in the various aspects of TV/TSism. I enjoy the feminine side of life and desire to participate in functions which promote self improvement."
Nancy, c/o Box 80622, Baton Rouge, LA 70898
****

Connie R. (PA-0514)

Shiela K. (PA-0336)

****

JENNIFER BOISSEAU (Central MA)

Member: Tri Ess

Participant: Lee Brewster's P-town Outing

5'6", 115, medium length black hair, passes easily.

Enjoys cooking, bowling, needle point, dancing as a girl, movies, and TV books.

"The body can't be whole unless the femme self is expressed."

Ms Jennifer A. Boisseau, Box 553, Holden, MA 01520

****

Terri D. (NV-0406)

****

NAOMI O. (Chicago, IL)

Member: Chi Chapter Tri-Ess, Crossroads, Paradise Club, Outreach Institute

Participant: Fantasia Fair '80-'84, Chi Chapter Holland Weekend, 'Be All You Want To Be' Weekend

Awards: 'Miss Fantasia Fair '83', F/F 'Miss Congeniality '80 & '81'

A Chicago area attorney who loves the better things in life. Is personable and understanding. Enjoys travel, photography, food (still can't stand beeta or brussel sprouts), and fashion & jewelry (it'a the gypsy in my soul). Active in mid-west crossdressing activities, and has appeared as a panelist on the David Susskind Show.

Naomi O. (IL-0257)

****

JENNIFER BARTON (Boston, MA)

MWM, 6'4", 205, brown hair, blue eyes, sensitive, caring.

Enjoys Biking, music, video, basketball, aome tennis, feeling & looking beautiful (hopefully).

"I would like to meet someone in the Boston area who is interested in fashion and could help me with clothes, makeup, etc (TV, TS, or F). I will answer all mail."

Ms Jennifer Barton, Box 622, Allston Sta., Allston, MA 02134

****

CINDY V. (Hartford, CT)

Member: Tri-Ess, GGA, Crossroads, Chi Delta Mu, TAMs

SWM hetero TV, 28, 5'8", 140. Enjoys Photography, crafts, music - most types, deserted beaches are fun, enjoys making friends.

"I would like to exchange letters & photos with other TVs, and meet when possible. Will answer all letters. Also interested in hearing from women who are interested in transgenderists as friends, share ideas, feelings, etc."

Cindy V. (CT-0381)

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****

MICHELINE JOHNSON (Ontario, Canada)

Participant: Tiffany's P-town Outing

A gentle person, attractrive, open, honest, sensitive, young 40's, interesting company, non-smoker.

Enjoys life, dancing, dining, films, theatre, music, travel, conversation, walks, wild-life, water falls, sunsets, hand holdning, hugging, togetherness.

"I'm looking for a romantic affectional asexual loving warm relationship, as a woman, with one special understanding cultured person having similar charcteristics with whom to share some of life together."

Micheline Johnson, Box 9155, Ottawa, Canada K1G-3T9

****

Donna W. (NH-0515)

Pamela V. (NY-0253)

Linda J. (CAN-0442)

****

TERRI SCOTT (Michigan)

Member: Crossroads

Attractive, very feminine, out going, friendly, intelligent lady. Enjoys writing and corresponding with others of a feminine nature. Also enjoys fashions and a female lifestyle.

"I desire to continue developing my female self and to experience everything in life as a woman."

Terri Scott, Box 728, Birmingham, MI 48012

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LOUISE C. (Maine)

Member: Tri Ess

63, 5'9", 170, retired, active outdoor person.

Enjoys dancing, sailing, hunting, fishing, history, and bridge.

"I would like to meet and/or correspond with an understanding woman."

Louise C. (ME-0618)

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****

DOROTHY G. (New Jersey)

Member: Chi Delta Mu - Tri Ess

Participant: Fantasia Fair '80 & '81, Joyce Dewhurst's Pocono Weekends, Tiffany's Wives Group Outing '84

Hetero male crossdresser, with a very supportive wife. He 42, she 36.

Enjoys socializing, especially with other couples for friendship.

"My wife is handicapped (post-polio), butenjoys attending get-togethers. We're willing to help other couples having 'acceptance' problems."

Dorothy G. (NJ-0627)

****

Bobbie B. (CA-0620)

THE FELLOWS WANT TO KNOW ARE YOU A BOY OR GIRL?

Barbara S. (DE-0358)

Danielle M. (CA-0553)

Charlene B. (CA-0586)

****

VALERIE VINCENT (Boston, MA)
MWM TV, 5'10", 150. Wears fingernails over 1" long, has picture album, makes convincingly attractive TV. Loves to dress up and have pictures of self taken. Is interested in breaking into female ipersonation and would love to model clothes, makeup, etc. Will swap pictures with other TVs.
Valerie V. (MA-0276) c/o Tiffany
****

****

SHIRLEY KAY KNIGHT (Colorado)
Member M.R.S.
Participant Tiffany's P-town Weekend '83
SWM TV, 5'8, 41, friendly and feminine. Enjoys traveling, dancing, doin 'drag shows', teaching college classes on transvestism,sewing, and going out in public as Shirley. "I am interested in meeting other TVs, particularly in the Rocky Mountain region, that like to go out dressed, or travel."

Shirley K (CO-0493)

****

MARWAN McKENZIE (Georgia)
F-M pre-op TS, 5'10", 140, 23, black hair, brown eyes.
Loves music! Enjoys reading, and sports. Loves Music, dancing, meeting people, and receiving letters.
"I'm the type that gets along with most everyone, and love fun and laughter. I will correspond with anyone, and especially hope to meet people in Georgia, or surrounding states."
Marwan McKenzie, 241 Troy St, Apt 9, Atlanta, GA 30314
****

TRENNA MARIE Mc. (Western NY)
Member: Tri Ess
MWM hetero TV, 60, 5'8", 185.
Enjoys woodworking, and model railroading.
"I enjoy corresponding with my sisters, and exchanging photos. I will answer all letters."
Trenna Marie Mc (NY-0623)
****

****

RITA MELISSA HAMILTON (Boston, MA)
WM hetero TV, 33, 6' 140, attractive, sincere, sensitive & adventurous.
Interested in science, music, dance, crossdressing, and having fun in high heels.
"I like going places crossdressed, where fun & interesting things are happening. I'd also like to meet people who are interested in the same."
Rita H (MA-0621)
****

ROBIN B. (Rhode Island)
Member: Tiffany Club General Member
MWM, 50's, 6'1, 160, lifelong crossdresser.
Enjoys tennis, golf, sailing, racing sailboats, bridge, crossdressing.
"I would like to meet similar people in the Greater Providence area."
Robin B. (RI-0611), c/o Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778
****

PAULA LOUISE RIORDAN (Eastern MA.)
Member: Tiffany Club
Participant: Fantasia Fair '83
MWM TV, 53.
Enjoys philosophy, religion, history, amateur radio, cooking, sewing, cosmetology, and fashion.
"I am happy being Paula and I enjoy conversation & correspondence with friends I have met through the Tapestry & Tiffany. Although opportunities are limited, I pass fairlywell & enjoy going out with friends."
Paula Riordan, c/o Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778
****

Gloria W. (IL-0613)

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RONNIE BROWN (Western Massachusetts)

Member: Gateway Gender Alliance, Harriet Lane's TV Set

Participant: Tiffany's P-town Outing, Fantasia Fair '84

Awards: Second Runner-Up Ms Provincetown '84

Pre-op bi TS, hormones 27 months, electrolysis 75% complete. Technically living as female full time and pass when "I feel like it". I am in that "twilight zone" where I'm known as a TS at work, as a male when not 'dressed' but when Ishopfor clothes or go places, Idress as female. I was never into the TV scene, and feel more comfortable in jeans and sneakers than in dresses and heels. Interested in photography, running, aerobics, computers, writing, and sewing. Mygoal is toachieve total femininity in mind and bodyto match my female spirit.

Ronnie Brown, Box 80458 Forest Park Station, Springfield, MA 01138

****

GLORIA WRIGHT (Illinois)

Member: Chi Chapter Tri Ess, Windy City Chapter GGA

Awards: 1st Runner-Up Miss Windy City GGA '84

Hetero, 5'3", 32, outgoing, understanding, fun loving.

Enjoys music, singing, photography. Also enjoys going out 'dressed' and passes well.

"I love correspondence, and meetings with everyone."

Gloria Wright, Box 172, Gurnee, IL 60031

****

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Janice R. (TX-0567)

****

BOBBIE B (South Shore Massachusetts)
SWM, 47, bi, enjoy lingerie. Easy going, good looks, trim build, would like to hear from other TV/TSs. Will answer all.
Bobbie B (MA-0461)

****

****

MARCIA GILBERT (Eastern MA)
MWM hetero TV, 41, dark, 5'7", sensitive and descreet.
Enjoys dressing (mostly for formal occasions), photography, dancing, and good times.
"I am just coming out, and would like to hear from all those who can help me be me."
Marcia G. (MA-0622)

****

DIANA LALINDE (Northern NJ)
Member: Tri Ess, GGA
Participant: Lee Brewster's P-town Outing
Hetero crossdresser, 5'6", 145, hispanic.
Enjoys photography, sports, car racing,a reading, U.F.O.s, country music, beauty.
"My wife loves music, dance, hockey, cats, the outdoors, make-up & fashion, and psychology. I would love to correspond with others that are looking for friendship."
Diana Lalinde, 103 60th St, B-303-101, West New York, NJ 07093

****

MICHELLE B. (Virginia)
Member: Delta Chi Chapter GGA
English, 53, professional automobile mechanic, a thinking man and a quiet and natural looking girl.
Enjoys gardening, roses and English cars of the thirties.
Michelle B. (VA-0617)

****

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Trenna Mc (NY-0623)

****

EILEEN CLAFLIN (OH)
MWM, hetero TV, 6', 35, passible on occasion. Loves kids, kittens, and being Eileen. Enjoys meetings and correspondence, music, photography & shopping. "Would like to make contact with other sisters to share experiences, viewpoints and understanding."
Eileen C (OH-0486)

****

BOBBIE BADAL (San Francisco, CA)
WM TV, 39, 5'6", 122, born under the birth sign Virgo.
Enjoys dating, music and swimming.
"I would like to meet a TV or TS for a serious relationship."
Bobbie Badal, Box 12062, San Francisco, CA 94112

****

REBECCA SUZZANE C. (Southeast MA)
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Outing
DWM, 50's, 6', long-time cross-dresser.
Enjoys golf, cooking, engineering, and, of course, being 'Suzanne'.
"I am totally addicted to the joysof cross-dressing. Ihave an easy-going personality and wish to establish friendship with other girls so that we may share the joys and frustrations of this wonderful feminine world that we share. If you're sensible and discreet, I would like to hear from you."
Suzanne C. (MA-0295)

****

****

ELLEN S (Oregon)
Member Tri Ess, GGA, Corresponding Secretary for NW Chapter GGA
Participant DREAM '78,'80,'83
Grande Dame DREAM '83
Hetero TV, early 50's, 5'11. Enjoy music (big band era) and traveling. Would like to meet sisters and discuss mutual interests in feminine subjects.
Ellen S., c/o NWGGA, Box 13173, Portland OR 97213

****

BULLETINS, NOTICES, NEWS

CARTOON IDEAS AND ARTWORK WANTED:

Preferably the cartoons are drawn from your own experiences. The intention is to give us a chance to chuckle at ourselves. Please, no sexually oriented cartoons or artwork.

Send to: Liz Warburton, c/o TV-TS Tapestry, Box 19, Wayland MA 01778

TAPESTRY:

Past issues available:

Issues 40 to 43 $8.00 @
Issue 39 $ 6.00 @
Issues 38 to 34 $4.00 @
Issue 33 $3.00 @

STAMPS-STAMPS-STAMPS

As you know, the TV-TS Tapestry is a non-profit publication. It is also designed to be an information clearing house. One of our most overwhelming burdons is handling all the requests for information, complimentary mailings to non-profit TV/TS organizations, libraries, helping professional organizations, etc, and doing outreach work. This all cost us a tremendous amount in postage (averaging app. $200 a month). We need stamps! (We need a lot of other things too, but postage is the single largest item.)

If you have stamps you can donate, send them to: Tapestry, Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

Thank you.

NEWS ITEM:

CHICAGO: A three-judge panel of the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals overturned a lower court ruling which reinstated a transsexual pilot, Karen Ulane, according to GayLife. In the August 30 decision, the court reversed a December 28, 1983 decision by U.S. District Court Judge John F. Grady in which Eastern Airlines was ordered to reinstate Ulane, 43, a former pilot.

The 12-page decision said that Title VII provisions of the 1964 Civil Rights Act do not protect transsexuals or anyone with a 'sexual identity disorder.' It argued that the reason gay people and transvestites have been excluded from Title VII protections should apply with equal force to deny protection for transsexuals."

"If the term 'sex' as it is used in Title VII is to mean more than biological male or biological female, then new definition must come from Congress," said the judges in the opinion.

Ulane's attorneys plan to file a petition for rehearing before all nine appeliate judges in the near future. Ulane had been ordered reinstated with seniority and $142,000 in back pay.

- END -

FICTION & NON-FICTION WANTED:

We are looking for good short stories that are tasteful, non-sexual, and well written.

We are also looking for well written editorials, poetry, personal profiles, personal experiences, how-to articles, and general information articles.

We are also looking for news items, entertaining short subjects, etc.

(Any item you send us that you wish returned, please include a stamped SASE. Also, any item you submit should be typewritten.)

Send to: Delores Carter, c/o TV-TS Tapestry, Box 19, Wayland MA 01778

NEW GROUPS?

Rumor has it that J. Storm has formed a TV/TS support group in Buffalo NY, and a person named Lilly is starting a support group in Cincinnati. If anyone has additional information, please send to: Editor, TV-TS Tapestry, Box 19, Wayland, MA, 01778.

Your help in learning more about these groups would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks!

CORRECTION:

The poem 'Free To Be Me' published in issue #43 was credited to Linda Jean Johnston. It should have been credited to Ruby Edwards, adopted by Linda.

ANNOUNCING A NEW MAJOR EVENT:

"The Windy City Chapter's SPRING FLING - CHICAGO STYLE"

The 'Spring Fling' is a new weekend function designed to compliment Tiffany's P-town Outing, Joyce Dewhurst's Poconos Weekend, the 'Be All You Want To Be' Weekend, etc.

There will be a fashion show, boutiques, sight seeing tours, entertainment, etc. The dates are: APRIL 18-21, 1985.

The fees are: 4 days, 3 nights $125.00

3 days, 2 nights $125.00

2 days, 1 night $75.00

For additional information contact: Sharon Renee Hart, (312)472-4518

INTRODUCING: The CONNECTICUT CHAPTER, G.G.A.

A new chapter of GGA has been formed in Southeastern Connecticut. Anyone wishing information can contact: Conn. Chapter, GGA, Box 744, Branford, CT, 06405

JANUS INFORMATION FACILITY

under the direction of Paul A. Walker, Ph.D. provides referrals, pamphlets, reprint material and conducts research.

An advance contribution of $25.00 or more is requested since the Facility is depenent on private donations and funding.

The Facility welcomes the names of professionals willing to be on our referral list.

Letters from post-operative gender reassignment individuals concerning their adjustment in their new life are welcomed.

Address all correspondence to:
Paul A. Walker, Ph.D.
1952 Union Street
San Francisco, CA 94123

INTRODUCING: BUTTERFLY, a new support group in Southwestern New York

Butterfly is a non-profit, non-sexual social-educational organizations for persons interested in TVism, TSism, and for relatives and friends. Anyone wishing information can contact: Butterfly, Box 7161, Endicott, NY 13760

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YES BEV. BUT, LET'S MAKE SURE THAT WE ARE QUIET AND DISCREET AS WE LEAVE OUR APARTMENT. THE NEIGHBORS DON'T KNOW ABOUT MY CROSS-DRESSING
OH MY... THIS IS NOT QUIET OR DISCREET
HI BEV, I THOUGHT I HEARD YOU COMING DOWN THE STAIRS... SAY, I DIDN'T KNOW STEWART'S SISTER WAS IN TOWN
OH!.. AH... AH. HELLO, MRS. WILLIAMS
OHHHH...
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CLACK
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